

Mrs Thatcher warns Russia of disaster if Poland is invaded

Margaret Thatcher warned the Soviet Union in a major speech yesterday that intervention in Poland would be a disaster for Russia as well as the Polish people. She said Nato countries would respond far more effectively than over Afghanistan. In remarks aimed at France, she rebuked questionings within the EEC of members' good faith and said the Community was at a crossroads.

France rebuked for EEC rifts

Mrs Thatcher said the EEC was "at a crossroads" on such issues as the common agricultural policy, and a joint effort was needed. She said that it could not be a "healthy basis for long-term development" for Britain and West Germany—last year and probably again this year—to be the only net contributors to the EEC budget. She added: "I want a Community in which each and every member state will accept its responsibilities, towards the others, secure in the knowledge that its own interests will be respected."

Mrs Thatcher had remarks of warm admiration for India. It was, she said, one of the most exciting of all stories of national development, but "to read some accounts you would think there were problems and nothing else."

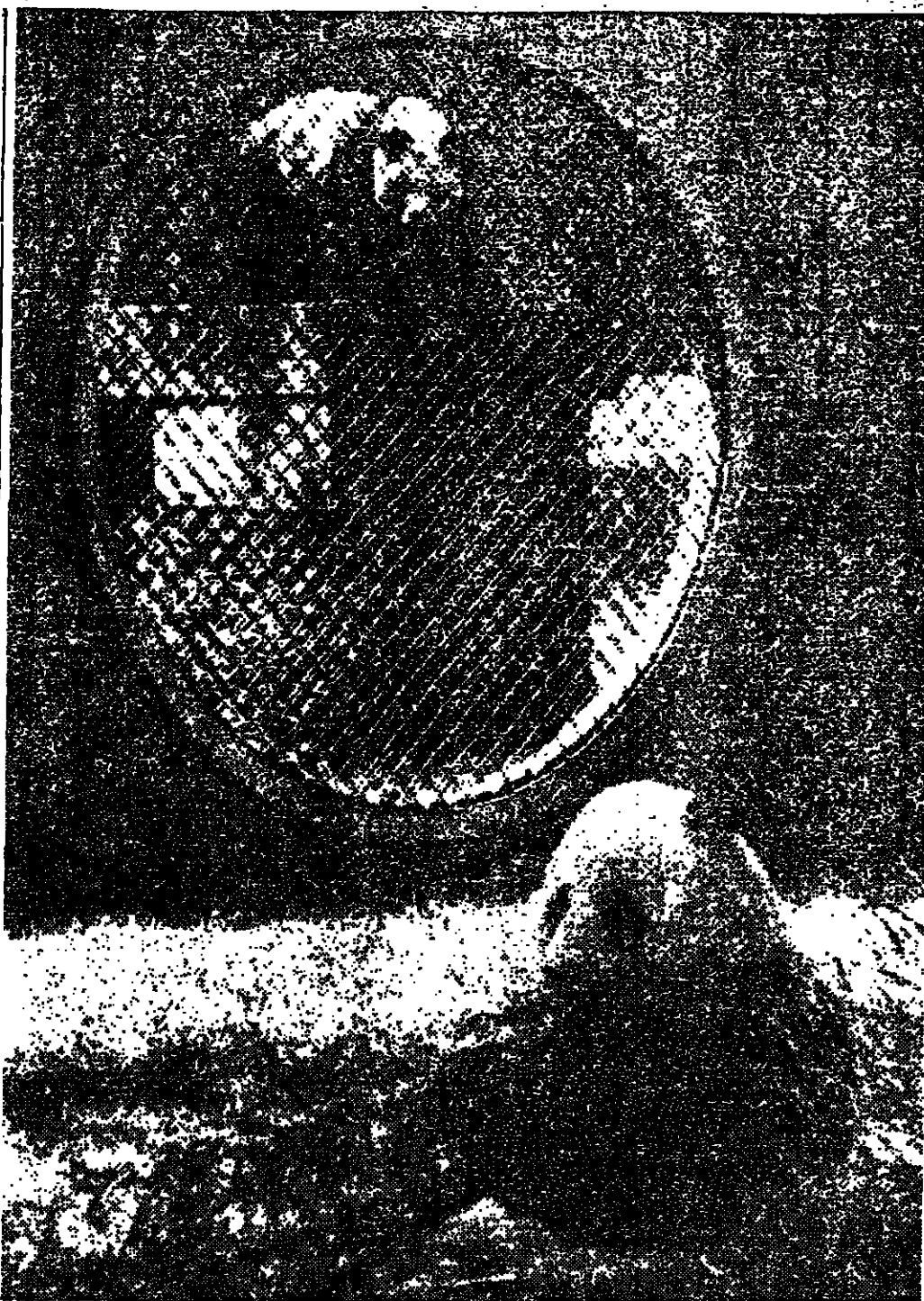
She added: "The disturbances which sometimes capture the headlines certainly happen. But are there fewer in other areas of similar size and population?" She called for perspective, and spoke of the immense reservoir of affection and good will for Britain.

On the Gulf countries Mrs Thatcher acknowledged that Britain had been "not as active as we should have been" after the troop withdrawal of 1971. But that period was over now, with Britain again active and energetic in the Gulf.

While not seeking to reintroduce troops, and making no reference to British support for the proposed American Rapid Deployment Force, Mrs Thatcher promised arms and training help.

This was in stark contrast to her enthusiasm for the force during and after her visit to President Reagan in February. Now she said that she would visit the Gulf "to learn—but also to help forward Britain's partnership with the Gulf states."

"But it is no more blind or uncritical than theirs. We are no less determined than they



Courtship time: Ling-Ling, Washington Zoo's female panda peers into the enclosure in Washington containing Chia-Chia, London Zoo's male panda, with whom it is hoped she will mate.

Mr du Cann walks into a storm on Budget report

By David Blake
Economics Editor

Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the committee, walked into a storm on the Budget report yesterday. The report, which was a highly critical report on the Chancellor's Budget strategy yesterday, destroyed the fragile unity of the Commons Treasury select committee.

Despite the fact that the committee had called a press conference, there was at one stage more than 100 MPs on their feet challenging the report than journalists able to ask questions.

Mr du Cann said it was unlikely that they would be making any further reports on the general economic situation in the near future. He rejected suggestions that the committee's internal divisions would weaken its authority.

But government ministers are likely to feel they have nothing to fear from the report when it is considered during the second reading debate on the Finance Bill.

Committee members disagreed strongly with each other on a number of issues, but put their own gloss on the report. Mr Michael English said that one paragraph had been written by "a monetarist" and one by "a Keynesian". He had accepted both in committee.

The report makes two main points. The first is that government spending cuts have been too heavily concentrated on public investment and have left current spending relatively unscathed. "Irrespective of what political view is taken about overall public spending as a proportion of GDP," the decline

Bank union strikes 'inevitable' after breakdown of pay talks

id Felton Staff

Leaders said last night that strikes by staff in branches of big city banks were now "inevitable" after the breakdown of pay talks with the banking unions.

The executive of the Bankers' Association and Finance (Bifin) will decide when to call a 24-hour strike which could involve more than 100 staff in the big cities and the West End and is also expected for a ballot of all its clerical members.

The Federation of London Bank Employers firmly resisted the union's demand for a 10 per cent pay rise. The union has already won out for the offer from 00-strong Clearing Bank also told Bifin negotiators that they intended to

impose the deal without their agreement.

Most staff will get the increase in their May salary cheques, but Mr Leif Mills, general secretary of Bifin, said that if the employers did implement the offer "the balloon will go up."

He accused the employers of "arrogance" during the negotiations. "They seemed oblivious to the consequences of their action, although some of them seemed almost to relish the idea of a confrontation," he said.

The union had originally made a 20 per cent pay claim, although it was prepared to settle for about 12 per cent. Mr Mills said that he believed that the employers had adopted a strategy which was designed to weaken Bifin and increase its rivalry with the non-TUC-affiliated Clearing Bank Union.

The employers, who denied adopting an "arrogant" attitude, said that there would be no improvement on the offer even if industrial action took

Police anger at report on assault inquiries

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Police reacted strongly yesterday to the unpublished report of the Home Office Research Unit alleging "serious defects" in the way assault inquiries are conducted. The Metropolitan Police are investigating complaints as calls were made for its publication.

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation, said he was "furious" that the Home Office had not told it of the report, and Sir David McNea, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, challenged the report's findings. "All allegations of assault are meticulously investigated," he said.

Supl John Keyte, secretary of the Police Superintendents' Association, questioned how qualified the research unit staff were to look into methods of investigation by police.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Grimsby and chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party's civil liberties group, said he was putting down a question for Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, asking him to publish the report before he makes his mind about making any changes in the way serious complaints are investigated.

Mr Kilroy-Silk also referred to deaths in police custody, the subject of an inquiry last year by the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee. It found no evidence to support generalized accusations of police brutality towards people in custody; but it wanted less secrecy surrounding the investigation of complaints against the police, including the way in which the Director of Public Prosecutions reaches his decision whether to prosecute.

Mr Kilroy-Silk said that in the light of the reply from Mr Whitelaw and the report in *The Times* on the Home Office study which began in 1978 into ways in which the Metropolitan Police dealt with complaints from black and white complainants. The study was intended to compare two years, 1973 and 1978, before and after the establishment of the Police Complaints Board.

The research was commissioned by the Police Department of the Home Office with the full cooperation of the Commissioner and on completion will be the subject of discussion.

Doctors revise way of establishing British brain death criteria

By Nicholas Timmins

The medical royal colleges are to revise the way doctors establish the British criteria for establishing brain death, after the dispute over last year's *Panorama* programme on the subject.

Three changes seem almost certain to be adopted. The first is that the criteria will be repeated, after a suitable lag of up to 24 hours before the life-support system was turned off.

They would have to be applied by two consultants, instead of, as at present, two doctors, one consultant or his immediate deputy.

In addition, a check-sheet setting out the tests to be applied would be introduced so that the results could be recorded and kept with the patient's records.

Professor Gordon Robson, secretary of the conference of the medical royal colleges, is to draw up the amended guidance, in consultation with specialists in the field and the Department of Health and Social Security. It will probably be introduced in the autumn, after being put to the colleges' conference in July.

Professor Robson denied yesterday that the decision meant that the *Panorama* programme, which attacked the criteria by which brain-stem death is established, had been right.

"The criteria have stood the test of time since 1976 and all the publicity since the programme. The conference is satisfied that there is no need to revise them. What has emerged is that both among the medical profession and among the public there was room for possible dispute about the way the criteria are actually applied."

At present the tests are often repeated anyway, and if organs are to be taken for transplant the surgeon has in any case to satisfy himself that the tests have been carried out properly and the criteria met.

"If it will finally help to restore confidence in the criteria, however, it seems sensible to lay down when the tests should be repeated and to provide a check-list to demonstrate that they have all been carried out."

It is these changes we shall be considering."

The royal colleges, together with the Department of Health, are also to look at better ways of informing doctors about the criteria. The check-list would help in that respect.

One factor that has emerged since the *Panorama* programme is that many doctors still do not know the criteria in detail.

Doctors at the United Kingdom transplant centre in Bristol, for example, were amazed to discover that of eight candidates from Bristol Hospital about to take membership of the Royal College of Physicians, a qualification needed to become a consultant, none could describe the tests in full.

P barred from 'charge'

h Noyes
Entry Correspondent

Donald Brown, Labour MP for Edinburgh, Leith, was yesterday barred from the House of Commons for "gross discourtesy" after he was ordered to leave the Chamber after MPs unanimously for his suspension.

The rules of the House of Commons require that a member who is suspended for five sitting days be allowed to resume his seat next Wednesday.

Incident developed when Mr Brown, one of the MPs who was in the controversial Afghanistans, accused General for Scotland, when answering a question to two newspaper

Democrats on course for big membership

The Social Democrats expect to announce today an initial membership of 12,000. The actual response to the party's launching is being kept a close secret until today's news conference, but interim figures are said to be on course for the ambitious end-April target of between 30,000 and 50,000 members. The SDP announcement will heighten the party's effort to create its own identity, distinct from the Liberals, but members accept that Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, may be given something to take to his party conference.

Lebanon truce clash

Lebanese Christian leaders have rejected Syrian conditions for a ceasefire and put forward their own terms. The Syrians consider the Christian town of Zahle and the Bekka valley as important for their defence against Israel.

English teams struggle

The chances of Liverpool and Ipswich Town contesting European football finals receded in their semi-final first leg home matches. Liverpool were held 0-0 by Bayern Munich in the European Cup and Ipswich could beat Cologne only 1-0 in the UEFA Cup.

Pressure to refer bid for Royal Bank grows

The Government is coming under growing pressure to refer the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation's £500m bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland to the Monopolies Commission. Bank of England officials are unsure of what action to take, and the Bank is uncertain of the grounds on which it can oppose the proposed takeover.

Reagan threat charge

A man arrested carrying a gun at a New York bus terminal has been charged with threatening to kill President Reagan. Officials said there was no evidence to link the 23-year-old man, Edward Richardson, with John Hinckley who shot the President last week.

Romanians defect

Three leading Romanian gymnastic trainers, including the coach of the 1976 Olympic gold medal winner, Nadia Comaneci, have defected to the United States, where they hope to continue their careers. Their decision is understood to have been based on unhappiness with state interference with teaching methods, rather than on ideological differences.

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London: London 20 to South Africa for training; Olympic Games: IOC president calls for stand against racism; Golf: John Hennessey previews US Masters
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Stock Markets: Strong institutional buying saw equities stage a remarkable recovery although gilts remained subdued after Tuesday's banking figures. The FT index leapt 13.6 to 539.4
Financial Editor: Winners and losers in mail order
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Outlook is better for space launch

From Michael Leapman
Cape Canaveral, April 8

The outlook has improved for a punctual launching of the first space shuttle on Friday. Engineers worked during a "hold" period in the countdown to put it only a few minutes behind schedule. It had fallen nearly 12 hours behind because of snags which had developed since it began on Sunday night. There are still 16 hours of hold time available before the shuttle is launched, which might occur before Friday.

The weather outlook suddenly looks better, too, according to Mr William Schick, the shuttle test director.

"It's not perfect, but it's progressing in the direction that looks like being acceptable on Friday and Saturday."

The two astronauts, Commander John Young, and Captain Robert Crippen, expressed confidence that the launching would be on time when they arrived wearing sky-blue flying suits at Patrick Air Force Base near here today.

A Friday launching "sure looks good," Commander Young said. "Bob and I are about ready to fly this thing."

Officials greeting them wore blue pads on their mouths and noses. The two are in quarantine to guard against infection.

To land safely in an emergency, the shuttle needs winds that must not exceed 10 mph in most directions but it now seems to be going north and may avoid Florida.

The weather at the landing site, a dry lake at Edwards Air Force Base in California, has to be taken into account.

Mr Schick said it is so right so far. If conditions that impossible to land the shuttle will be the White Sands missile in New Mexico. The flight due to last 54 hours.

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Office buildings in the town centre
Greystones House, 160,000 sq ft of offices above the new bus station.
Belgrave House, 14,660 sq ft forming part of the Grosvenor Shopping Centre. Castle House, 26,700 sq ft in a prime position.
Woodlands House, 9,300 sq ft of prestige offices. Other properties 300 to 10,000 sq ft.

Office sites in Northampton
In the town centre an important site of 3.5 acres for a development up to 300,000 sq ft. One site for 4500 sq ft and two sites for 30,000 sq ft. At Weston Favell District Centre a site for up to 100,000 sq ft.

Moulton Park provides 83 acres of campus sites in a rural setting.

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A wide range of industrial sites are available on four employment areas. A choice of unit factories ranging from 3500 sq ft to 20,000 sq ft immediately available at Brackmills and Moulton Park.

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White chief backs government proposals for student loan scheme

Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent, reports that the Government has decided to drop its proposals for a student loan scheme because of the cost that would be incurred in the short term. The Government's long-awaited decision on the subject is to be made in the Commons next week.

The decision to shelve the proposals indefinitely was made by a Cabinet subcommittee last week after it had considered a paper outlining the possibility of introducing a scheme similar to that operated in Sweden. It was designed to replace by the contributions that students above a certain income are supposed to pay for their children's education.

The abolition of the parental contribution has long been a close to the heart of Mr. John Boyson, the Minister of State for Higher Education and a chief advocate within the Government of a student loan scheme; but it would cost estimated £100m, and that it would not be repaid for many years.

The Government is expected to make clear that it considers a scheme has many attractions, but that more resources would be required for its introduction; that effectively means the scheme does not stand a chance within the lifetime of the Government.

The official announcement is delayed until after the end of the new session of the House of Commons on Tuesday. The Federation of University Students, the main body of the left wing, whose proposals are not dissimilar to those of the Social Democrats, the right wing, which has the union for the past year in aggressively flamboyant manner.

The contentious issue that led to the decision was the right-wing's decision to support the scheme of student loans, while the left wing and the rest of the student movement were pitting hard against loans.

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abandonment is expected to harm the right wing's chance of success in the union's presidential elections.

The Government has still not decided on the level of next year's maintenance grants for students. But the increase is expected to be kept well below the rise needed to keep pace with inflation, probably between 5 and 9 per cent.

An interdepartmental working party's proposals for radical changes in the present chaotic range of financial support for 16 to 19-year-olds have been all but killed after fierce opposition from Mr. James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment. But the Cabinet subcommittee which considered the proposals has agreed to review them again in six months.

The proposals which had the strong backing of education ministers, would have involved paying single, flat-rate benefit of \$4.75 a week for all people aged 16 to 19 who are not in full-time jobs, equivalent to the child benefit at present paid to parents with children in full-time education up to the age of 19. In addition there would be a means-tested supplement up to a maximum equal to the level of social security benefit for an unemployed school-leaver of £15.25 for those aged 16 to 17 and £19.20 for those aged 18 or over.

The scheme was designed to have cost no more than the total cost of the present package of benefits: the available money simply would have been more evenly distributed.

Those who would be relatively well off under the scheme are the young unemployed on Youth Opportunities Programme schemes, who are paid £23.50 a week. An estimated 400,000 people aged 16 to 19 are expected to benefit from the scheme next year at a cost of nearly £200m.

There have been many complaints about the unfairness of the present system under which young people studying the same subjects in the same classes receive between nothing and £23.50 a week.

Plans ready for rival higher education body

Our Education Correspondent reports that the Government has decided to drop its proposals for a student loan scheme because of the cost that would be incurred in the short term. The Government's long-awaited decision on the subject is to be made in the Commons next week.

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main in local authority ownership. The national body, on which there would be a strong local authority presence, would plan and fund all higher education in more than 400 maintained colleges; no mention is made of direct grant institutions.

The funds required for higher education would be obtained by levying contributions from each local education authority on a formula basis similar to the existing pooling arrangements for higher education in the public sector.

The level of funding would be worked out in consultation between the Secretary of State and the local authority associations in the same way as the overall government grant to local authorities.

Under the Government's proposals, the national body would receive funds direct from Government after "bargaining" with the Government in much the same way as the University Grants Committee does for the university sector; local authorities would have no say at all.

While the local authorities' national body would clearly be much weaker than that proposed by the Government, it would have some important powers.

It would, for example, be empowered to provide funds for an institution for specific academic programmes, and only after those programmes had been individually approved by it. Earmarked funds would be channelled through the maintaining local authority.

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The Beast tamed: Police getting a line on Mr Dodd's car in Fleet Street, London, yesterday.

How The Beast, cruising speed 250 mph, was foiled by London traffic

By David Nicholson-Lord
Yesterday went rather badly for Mr John Dodd. Apart from facing an injunction sought by Rolls-Royce for allegedly taking their name in vain, his journey to the High Court in London was severely, and conspicuously, disrupted.

The object responsible was a miracle of modern engineering known as The Beast, a 27-horsepower motor car powered by a Second World War aircraft engine. Custom-built with loving care, it cruises happily at speeds of 250 mph and is valued at

£100,000 and costs £1,100 to insure. Yesterday, however, it did the unthinkable. It broke down.

To be precise, it broke down at least three times. The sad saga of The Beast's fall from grace began at Epsom, when Mr Dodd, aged 48, who owns an automatic gearbox business, left home.

As well as sundry other marvels such as a built-in fire extinguisher and more exhaust manifolds than one can count, The Beast also displays the

Rolls-Royce "Spirit of Ecstasy" statuette and a Rolls-Royce style grille.

The company objects to those and is seeking to stop what it regards as an infringement of registered trade marks.

Mr Dodd's first intimation of trouble came at Battersea where the engine began to emit smoke. The Beast ground to a halt.

Shortly afterwards flat batteries, with electric fuel-pump complications, intervened. After being towed somewhat ignominiously up and down Fleet Street several times, The

Beast was found a quieter resting-place round the corner. Here Mr Taylor stood guard, patiently explaining The Beast's many wonders.

The Beast would shortly have a new cooling system installed, and he blamed the London traffic and stop-start driving.

At the High Court, meanwhile, Mr Dodd's solicitor promised that the car would be described as The Beast, not as a Rolls-Royce, and gave an undertaking that it would not be used or exhibited in public pending a further hearing.

By Our Music Reporter
The threatened strike by the orchestra at the English National Opera over the dismissal of five players, was declared official by the executive of the Musicians' Union yesterday.

The musicians plan to stop work after Saturday night's performance.

The five, all members of the wind section, have received notices of dismissal which take effect at the end of June. The management at the London Coliseum believes the playing of the five is no longer of a high enough standard, but the orchestra disagrees.

Mr Richard Mantle, personnel director of the ENO, said: "Some of the players have been in the orchestra a long time. That does not make it any easier."

The management felt that there was some room for improvement in the orchestra. When the plan was first disclosed, the musicians went through an agreed procedure of discussion about the notices.

Mr Thomas Higgins, the Musicians' Union steward in the orchestra, said yesterday that eventually the players had voted by more than five to one against the management's proposal.

There was an increase in poisoning by women and hanging by men.

Care project for the handicapped

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Lifetime care for mentally handicapped adults whose parents have died or can no longer care for them is to be offered under a new scheme launched yesterday by the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults.

Parents will be encouraged to leave the society their homes or part of their estate in return for a guaranteed home in the local community for their children.

The scheme has arisen both from the concern of aging parents about what will happen to their adult mentally handicapped children and because successive governments have failed to provide enough accommodation.

Mr Gerald Sanctuary, legal adviser and director of regional and local affairs, said yesterday that 97 mentally handicapped people in the Stroud district of Gloucestershire were known to be living at home with parents aged 75 or more. In Somerset there were at least 80.

The first home will open in Bristol, probably in July, with the help of a local housing association. It will house about seven mentally handicapped adults, who will be provided with education and training.

A second project is to open for eight moderately to severely mentally handicapped people in the London borough of Lambeth in November.

Negotiations are in hand for a third project in Derbyshire, and Sir George Young, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, hinted yesterday that Central Government grants might be available.

The society emphasized that local authorities would be paying the fees of the residents, but the scheme would speed the provision of homes in the community.

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Union makes orchestra strike official

By Our Music Reporter
The threatened strike by the orchestra at the English National Opera over the dismissal of five players, was declared official by the executive of the Musicians' Union yesterday.

The musicians plan to stop work after Saturday night's performance.

The five, all members of the wind section, have received notices of dismissal which take effect at the end of June. The management at the London Coliseum believes the playing of the five is no longer of a high enough standard, but the orchestra disagrees.

Mr Richard Mantle, personnel director of the ENO, said: "Some of the players have been in the orchestra a long time. That does not make it any easier."

The management felt that there was some room for improvement in the orchestra. When the plan was first disclosed, the musicians went through an agreed procedure of discussion about the notices.

Mr Thomas Higgins, the Musicians' Union steward in the orchestra, said yesterday that eventually the players had voted by more than five to one against the management's proposal.

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Suicide figures up 5 per cent

Suicides in England and Wales rose by 5 per cent to 1,051 in the second quarter of 1980, compared with 1,003 in the same period in 1979, according to figures published yesterday by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

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Labour rift in Yorkshire

Scargill 'hit list' aims to keep out the moderates

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

Moves by Yorkshire miners to replace moderate Labour MPs with candidates more in sympathy with the left-wing attitudes of the new party hierarchy are under way. What has been called a "hit list" of about a dozen constituencies in South Yorkshire and parts of West Yorkshire is under consideration.

Mr Arthur Scargill, Yorkshire Area president of the National Union of Mineworkers, has made it clear that the miners will be looking at coalfield seats, not merely the five constituencies of Barnsley, Dearne Valley, Hemsworth, Normanton and Don Valley occupied by MPs sponsored by miners.

His announcement that Mr Kevin Barron, a Maltby miner, is to be nominated for candidature in the Rother Valley constituency when its re-election conference takes place next month is an indication that it is not idle chatter. Rother Valley is held by Mr Peter Hardy, a former schoolmaster, sponsored by the National Union of Public Employees, with a Labour majority of 26,002.

Other constituencies said to be under scrutiny are Pontefract and Castleford, held by Mr Geoffrey Lofthouse, a former personnel manager; Penistone, held by Mr Allen McKay, a former National Coal Board industrial relations officer; Dewsbury, held by Mr David Ginsburg, a former market research consultant; Rotherham, held by Mr Stanley Crowther, a former journalist; Wakefield, held by Mr Walter Harrison, a former foreman electrician; and Doncaster, held by Mr Harold Walker, a former engineer.

Of the five MPs sponsored by miners, only Mr Michael Welsh, of Don Valley, is likely to measure up to the left-wing requirements of the miners. The rest, Mr Roy Mason, Barnsley; Mr Edwin Watkinson, Dearne Valley; Mr Albert Roberts, Normanton; and Mr Alec Woodall, Hemsworth, are moderates who at some time or other have incurred the wrath of the Yorkshire area miners' council by ignoring its dictates on how they should vote on a variety of parliamentary issues in general and on the Labour Party leader election in particular.

Mr Scargill has described such MPs as "prima donnas" and demanding the "luxury of independence". Such people, in his view, should stand as independents. The increase in political activity by Yorkshire miners owes its impetus to Mr Scargill. In his presidential address to his annual council meeting last month he called for an intensification of efforts in the political sphere and said there was no intention of concentrating on industrial matters.

The miners are not alone in increasing political activity. Other unions, for instance, left-wing attitudes such as Nupe, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs and the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians are seeking affiliation of increasing numbers to constituency Labour parties in parts of Yorkshire but it is on the miners that they are basing their strategy.

That consists of affiliating sufficient union members living in a particular constituency, obtaining as many delegates as possible on general management committees, and using the weight of numbers to oust moderates.

Mr Scargill, who was not available for comment this week, has, however, made his views on reselection known. He has said that if MPs have acted in accordance with the rules and constitution of the Labour Party they have nothing to fear. He said: "On the other hand, if MPs blatantly ignore or disregard decisions of their general management committees on major issues then they must expect reaction and possible rejection if and when a reselection conference takes place."

Barnsley may be regarded as the best example of takeover tactics where the only miner in office is Mr Jack Brown, a community education worker, who is vice-chairman of the Barnsley Constituency Labour Party. He prefers to be thought of as a Socialist. "I don't want to create a socialist society here and consolidate here before we start expanding internationally".

Mr Brown, who claims to represent "most of the left wing" in Barnsley, gives two reasons why there has been a left-wing revival: "It was organized on a national basis and the basic drive was that this time we are going to make sure that the Labour Party becomes what it should be, a party of equality and social change."

"This time if we are going to fail it will be on socialism practised, not on capitalism attempted. Secondly, there has been an educational process, and Mr Woodward Bonn is largely responsible. It has been recognized that there is a tradition going right back to Watt Tyler."

Most MPs in the coalfield are having a rethink for fear of jeopardizing chances of reselection.

These MPs are prima donnas, wanting the privilege of sponsorship and demanding the luxury of independence... If they disregard decisions on major issues they must expect reaction and possible rejection.



Mr Wainwright: Trouble in Dearne Valley



Mr Roberts: Defiant in Normanton



Mr Woodall: Under pressure in Hemsworth

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Trade union code remote, says Lord Hailsham

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The prospect of a new statutory code of trade union rights appeared remote last night after evidence by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, to the Commons Select Committee on Employment.

In the clearest hint yet from a senior minister that further comprehensive legislation on trade union immunities is unlikely in the lifetime of the present Government, Lord Hailsham said he did not believe there was "sufficient political consensus" for such a code.

The idea of a clear legal statement of trade union rights is proposed as one option in the Government's Green Paper on Immunities which has been strongly criticized by the TUC and on which the Government has invited consultations.

Lord Hailsham said that while a "maximalist or comprehensive approach" might have been preferred if trade union legislation was being approached anew, the decision taken in 1979 (before the Employment Act) to deal with the minimum considered necessary rights had not been taken unadvisedly. "It should now be pursued as a policy," he added.

The Lord Chancellor said that this "pragmatic approach" had to be qualified. The Government was already at risk from litigation in the Strasbourg Court of Human Rights in the closed shop "and potential matters".

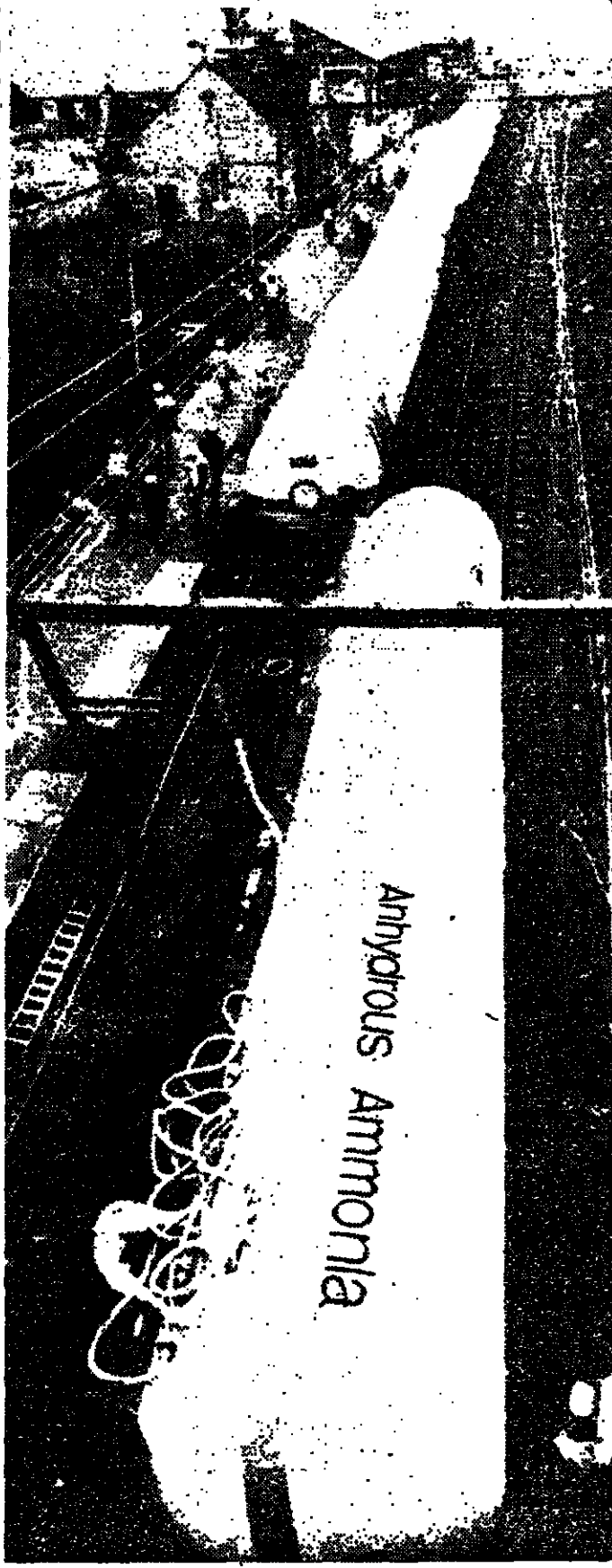
Lord Hailsham said it clear that he believed British would have to be amended to take account of any Strasbourg decision.

Secondly, he said: "If existing rights or immunities are abused either to the detriment of individuals, groups or the public, Parliament will demand that they be modified and public opinion will support the demand."

However discussion should, "at any rate for the time being, concentrate on individual issues and remedies."

Lord Hailsham said that he approached the Green Paper with a "strong prejudice against the formulation of a code of rights which had favoured one before 1971, he believed 'the opportunity had been missed'.

A statement of rights for trade unions would probably be at the back of his mind, pending statement of obligations, and there was not sufficient public consensus for such a code.



Tanker derailment: The scene outside Hadfield Station, Derbyshire, yesterday, when 30 families were warned to stand by to leave their homes after a train carrying 15 tankers of ammonia was derailed. One tanker was leaking and its contents were transferred to another under the supervision of firemen. No one was affected by the fumes. The train was travelling from Merseyside to Barton-upon-Humber, Humberside. The Sheffield-Manchester line may be closed until the weekend because of the derailment.

Savoy Hotel killer chose prostitute at random

A man booked a room at the Savoy Hotel, London, so that he could kill a prostitute who was unknown to him, Mr Justice Payne was told at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Tony Marriott, aged 22, from Horsham, West Sussex, then carried out the "totally premeditated" killing of Miss Catherine Russell, aged 27, in room 853 on October 1 last year, Mr Michael Coombe, for the prosecution, said.

Miss Russell, a masseuse with convictions for prostitution, was stabbed 35 times and Mr Marriott, who admitted having an aversion to normal sex, later attempted suicide with one of two knives he had bought for the occasion.

Mr Coombe told the court that it was a "cold, calculated and bizarre" story. Mr Marriott had conceived the idea some considerable time before and had previously come near to engaging a prostitute to kill her in London.

Mr Marriott, of Highland Avenue, Horsham, pleaded not guilty to murder but his plea of guilty to manslaughter by reason of diminished responsibility was accepted.

Mr Justice Payne sent him to Broadmoor Hospital for an unlimited time.

In brief

Belfast airport strike ends
The strike that closed Belfast airport was settled yesterday and flights resumed last night. Agreement with the 200 ground staff workers was reached after three hours of talks. They had walked out at midnight on Sunday in a dispute over conditions attached to a 9 per cent pay offer.

Bacardi dispute over
An out of court settlement was announced yesterday in the dispute involving Bacardi and Courage, the brewer, which had been serving Dry Cane in response to requests for "Bacardi". Courage has agreed not to supply any other drink if Bacardi is asked for without an explanation to and the assent of the customer.

Boxer elects trial
John L. Gardner, aged 27, the European heavyweight boxing champion, elected trial by jury when he appeared before Highways magistrates yesterday and was committed to Sharnbrook crown court, charged with failing to pay for £10 of petrol at a service station.

Foot-and-mouth tests
Tests on sheep suspected of having foot-and-mouth disease will be completed today. The animals, which are kept on a farm at Trengyn, Powys, are expected to be cleared. Restrictions connected with the disease in Jersey were lifted last night.

Shut cinema is listed
Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, has effectively preempted his own verdict on a planning appeal by agreeing to list The Carlton, a closed cinema in Swansea, as being of historic and architectural interest.

BL taxis recalled
BL Cars is recalling 8,000 FSA taxis in the United Kingdom for free replacement of the steering drop arm with a strengthened version. Only vehicles built since July, 1977, are affected.

100,000th ticket sold
Donald Sinden, the actor, yesterday handed over the 100,000th ticket sold from the half-price London theatre ticket booth in Leicester Square since it opened last December.

Petrol tax protest
The RAC yesterday started a campaign attacking the Government's tax increases on petrol and vehicles. Drivers are being urged to protest to their MPs.

Death penalty move
The Government of the Irish Republic yesterday refused to back an attempt in the Dail to abolish hanging.

Philippines opposition brand Marcos poll 'a complete farce'

Manila, April 8.—President Marcos of the Philippines today branded a landslide victory in yesterday's constitutional referendum: but the opposition branded the poll a "complete farce" and threatened to boycott the June 7 presidential election which the referendum approved.

United Democratic Opposition (UDO) leaders alleged that the Government had engaged in widespread cheating, vote-buying and tampering to gain the 80 per cent "yes" vote in unofficial returns so far.

Unido said Mr Cesar Climaco, the governor of Zamboanga City, had confiscated "complete manufactured returns" from the southern Philippines. Five bundles of prepared returns had been seized, it was claimed, and suspects detained included people affiliated with President Marcos's New Society Party (KBL).

Mr Climaco asked the Unido leadership to "alert the entire nation since the same dirty tricks are being perpetrated throughout the country to perpetuate one-man rule and make Marcos President-for-life". President Marcos today ordered an inquiry into the affair and called a meeting of the KBL for April 14 to name him as its president didate for June 7.

In a letter to the Commission on Elections President said he wanted to "show everyone that the will not tolerate violators election code irrespective political affiliation".

With about 25 per cent unofficial returns in, the vote won in nine out of 10 national regions, while Unido recommended "no won in Bicol in southern and northern and so Mindanao".

The approval rate was as 99 per cent in the Cagayan Valley, 97 per cent in the Ilocos region, 95 per cent in the Cordillera region, 93 per cent in the Visayas, and 85 per cent in the southern Tagalog.

What particularly hurt was the 85 per cent "yes" Manila, traditionally an anti Marcos stronghold where a strong campaign for re-election was being waged.

The amended constitution gives President Marcos another six years in office, power over the armed forces, and powers—Agence France

Principle drives and press have to go

Auckland, April 8.—The press was prevented from covering part of Prince Charles's tour of New Zealand today when photographers ran in front of a 50-ton lorry he was driving during a visit to the Upper Waitaki Power Development Project.

When the Prince got into the lorry and drove it, photographers ran in front to get pictures. Later, when he posed on the steps of the lorry, he looked upset, and was heard to say: "This is stupid."

Mr Max Smith, a government engineer, said he gave the order to keep the press away from the Prince. "I did the wrong thing—I do admit that. It was not done maliciously."

—AP.

Hazards of working breakfasts

Nelson, New Zealand
Mr Robert Muldoon, Prime Minister, spoke today against "working breakfasts" recalling one he had with Mr Edmund Hillary the former American Secretary of State.

Mr Muldoon described breakfast as an affliction. He told a breakfast organized by New Zealand bookshellers of a similar one he had with Mr Musk-Fried at the State House.

Muskie put him around me and gave orange juice—which was experience for me. He job shortly afterwards, shows what working can do for you?—Reuters

Divorce controversy splits ruling party in Spain

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, April 8
A split between conservative and progressive factions of Spain's ruling Centre Democratic Union (CUD) provoked a demand for party discipline in the vote on a proposed divorce law, widened today after the government-sponsored Bill was approved last night by the Lower House of Parliament.

Pleased at the passage of the proposed law, Senator Francisco Fernandez Ordoñez, the Minister of Justice, acknowledged that a storm was already brewing in the Senate over it.

Political observers expect the Bill to be amended considerably by the Senate where the ruling party's conservatives are stronger and where party discipline will not be imposed. It is not expected to become law before at least two or three months considering its expected rough passage in the Senate and the eventual need to negotiate its terms in a somewhat more conservative form in the Lower House.

Senator Fernandez Ordoñez, a leader of the Social Democratic party, yesterday set out this law, whether through the lengthening of the period of required separation or the unnecessary complication of the procedures... would mean a dangerous step backwards, which would only serve to add to the expense, bitterness and insecurity of those who want to resolve their anguishing situation.

Grenade blasts Delhi envoy's Kampala office
From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, April 8
Two people were slightly injured when a hand grenade exploded today at the Indian High Commission office in central Kampala. Troops cordoned off the building.

It is not known whether the attack was made by one of the guerrilla groups operating in Uganda, but it raised tension in Kampala.

It may have been intended to deter Asians from accepting President Obote's invitation to return and take back property seized when former President Amin expelled them in 1972.

Corpses pile up as California cemetery strike
San Francisco, April 8
Cemetery strike has caused a pile-up of corpses to more than 100 families waiting to bury their dead.

Chemically preserved bodies have been accumulating in undertakers' rooms since the strike began. Cemetery workers and Attendants union struck. "Everybody seems to be just digging a hole and away," said Mr William Clay, a union business man. "But when it gets down to it, we do some and gruesome work, and not paid enough for it."

Chinese leader tenders an olive branch to India
From David Bonavia
Peking, April 8
Mr Deng Xiaoping, First Deputy Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, has offered India unconditional talks on the restoration of good-neighbourly relations.

In a meeting with an Indian parliamentary leader today, Mr Deng dismissed the prospect of another border war with India. "Our troops cannot cross Tibet because of the lack of oxygen," he said, according to informed Indian sources. "We do not have many troops and we also do not see any threat from your side to China."

Mr Deng told Mr Subramaniam Swamy, leader of the Janata party, that Sino-Indian border problems could be solved through "repeated discussion".

More stray pets because of recession, RSPCA says

By Hugh Clayton

Animal welfare campaigners said yesterday that there were more stray dogs and cats because of the recession.

Mr David Wilkins, deputy chief veterinary officer of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said: "The problem has become more acute as the recession has become deeper."

He told a press conference in London that about a million

puppies and a million kittens were born in Britain each year and about half a million dogs and the same number of cats were destroyed.

"Every year there were some 30,000 stray and unwanted dogs in London alone."

"One of the greatest contributors is the ease with which people can buy kittens and puppies. I think the Government has a remarkable record of apathy. It has done nothing."

£220,000 award for boy over hospital error
A child who was given an overdose of anaesthetic by error during a minor operation was awarded £220,000 damages and interest in the High Court yesterday.

Liam Connolly, aged five, had needed a heart operation at University College Hospital, London, in 1976 when he was 17 days old, Mr Justice Connolly said.

He had been a normal, healthy baby, but the "massive anaesthetic overdose" administered during a straightforward operation on his penis had caused brain damage, reducing him to a severely mentally abnormal child.

Liability had been admitted by Camden and Islington Area Health Authority.

Churchill drink allegation 'preposterous'

An allegation that Sir Winston Churchill was paralytically drunk at times during the Second World War was described as preposterous yesterday by his grandson.

Mr Winston Churchill, Conservative MP for Streatham, said the suggestion by Lord Averbury was untrue.

"I would be glad to know of any evidence to substantiate a vile and malicious allegation against a man who cannot answer back."

Lord Averbury, who made the allegation at an international conference on alcoholism in Liverpool on Monday, said Sir Winston's drinking must have impaired his capabilities.

Bernard Levin, page 14

Five men fined for wine label fraud

Five men from a respectable firm of wine importers put false labels on inferior blended wine. The Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The men bought appellation controlled and declassified wines from the same area of France and blended them. David Tudor-Price was for the prosecution. The wines were then given appellation controlled labels.

The five, from the Mason Cattle company, all admitted conspiring to contravene a section of the Trade Descriptions Act, and agreed to commit false labelling.

Paul Bohane, aged 46, company director, of Culverden Park, Tonbridge, Kent, his brother, Austin Bohane, aged 69, chairman of managing director of Wadhurst, Sussex, and Rex Read, aged 66, sales director, of Thames Ditton, Surrey, were each fined a total of £500.

Ken Buttle, aged 51, sales manager, of Mitcham, Surrey, and James Morrison, aged 45, shipping manager, and stock controller, of Colchester, Essex, were fined £100 each.

Richard Tooth, aged 60, the company's former accounts clerk, of Tottenham Corner, Epsom, Surrey, had denied one charge of conspiring to contravene a section of the Trade Descriptions Act. The prosecution offered no evidence and he was discharged.

At about 6 pm, the licensee of a Southend public house noticed him in his bar. He saw on television a report of the killing and a description of the wanted man and called the police.

Mr James Locks, the publican, was praised by the judge.

Moones act to keep their tax-free status
The Unification Church, known as the Moonies, yesterday called for a meeting with the Charity Commissioners in an attempt to keep their tax-free status.

The submission comes after the announcement by the commissioners on Tuesday that they would reconsider last week's decision not to investigate the sect's charitable status.

Mr David Fraser Harris, speaking for the Moonies, said yesterday that the sect had written to the commissioners asking for a meeting.

He said: "We want to put our point of view in them. There is no harm in reconsidering, but in depth, please. What we are worried about is that it could be a shallow hearing which would lead to a misunderstanding."

Court to rule on Scottish ticket ban by the FA
The legal challenge by Scotland's soccer supporters to the Football Association over the allocation of tickets for the England-Scotland match on May 23 will be heard at Westminster County Court next Tuesday.

The FA received notification at its offices in Lancaster Gate, London, yesterday that the Scottish division of the National Federation of Football Supporters Clubs had instituted legal proceedings under the Race Relations Act, 1976.

The association banned the sale of tickets north of the border because of serious trouble at the past two Wembley internationals.

Mr Charles Bent, Scottish division chairman, said an application would be made "for an interim order restraining the FA from distributing tickets on a basis which fails to give Scots, or people living in Scotland, the same opportunity to acquire such tickets as other people."

Mr Bent, aged 32, a careers officer from Hamilton, Lanarkshire, said he intended to be at the match come what may. He was obtaining ticket clubs from three recent England internationals at Wembley which would qualify him for a ticket.

He said his organization had tried for two years to get the FA to meet them to discuss ticketing, but now had a fighting fund to cover court costs.

Mr Ted Croker, FA secretary, said earlier that the FA wanted the fixture to continue and to control public order but it had not been possible to allow the match to proceed as it had on the past two occasions.

OVERSEAS

Complete liberation of Lebanon demanded by Christian leaders

From Tewfik Mishlawi

Beirut, April 8

Lebanese right-wing forces shelling Syrian troops of the UN peacekeeping force today rejected Syrian terms for a ceasefire, and put forward their own terms. However, a ceasefire ordered by President Elias Aoun was broadcast on the official radio at 30-minute intervals and after several hours the fighting began to subside on the so-called green line dividing Beirut into Muslim and Christian sectors.

Syrian tanks and artillery fired shells into the Christian town of Zahle, with a population of 200,000 which has been under Syrian siege for eight years. A resident reached by telephone said he and his family of five had been living in the basement since the shelling began.

"We have no water or electricity, food supplies are difficult to come by and a wounded man with us is dying because we cannot help him."

Syrian forces were mopping up a right-wing militia in the hills surrounding Zahle. The militia, in turn, have been selling Syrian positions in the Bekaa valley with their mobile mortars and super-rocket launchers.

The rights for the second day shelled the town of Shouara, the main Beirut-Damascus road where the general command headquarters of the Syrian forces in Lebanon are based.

The Syrian ceasefire conditions were presented to President Sarkis yesterday at a meeting with Mr Abdul Halim Haddad, the Syrian Foreign Minister. They were later re-

laid to right-wing leaders who put forth their own terms.

Government officials in Beirut said that despite their apparent willingness to accept a truce, neither Syria nor the Lebanese rightists were prepared to compromise. Syria has made it clear that Zahle and the entire Bekaa valley are important for its security and defence against Israel.

Lebanese Christian leaders, on the other hand, insist on the total evacuation of Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon. "This is a struggle for the liberation of all of Lebanon and we are not prepared to accept anything short of this," Mr Bachir Gemayel, the commander of the right-wing Christian forces said.

Mr Camille Chamoun, a former President and another Christian leader, supported Gemayel's demand and added that a United Nations force should replace the Syrians in Lebanon.

President Sarkis today received Mr Brian Urquhart, assistant to Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, but it was not clear whether he discussed Mr Chamoun's demand.

M. Hubert Arpad, a special emissary of President Giscard d'Estaing, was leaving Beirut today with a message from President Sarkis whose contents were not disclosed.

M. Arpad earlier told reporters that he was planning to discuss with Mr Sarkis the possibility of convening a United Nations Security Council meeting in Lebanon.

It is believed here that one of the aims the Christian rightists are trying hard to achieve is to bring the Lebanese case before the world organization.

King Husain reaffirms tough line at No 10

By Our Diplomatic Staff

King Husain of Jordan called on Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, in London yesterday and spent an hour discussing Middle East issues.

The King arrived in London on Tuesday for what is described as a private visit. He is to attend his son's passing-out parade at Sandhurst but is also due to see Mr John Nott, the Defence Secretary, on Monday and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, on Wednesday.

His visit to 10 Downing Street was described by Foreign Office officials as customary. The King usually pays calls on the Prime Minister during fairly regular visits to Britain and this one was not apparently related to his meeting in Amman on Monday with Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State.

The discussions with Mrs Thatcher centred on the Middle East peace process, the question of the Palestinians, and the possibility of a European initiative to break the deadlock over the Camp David agreements.

King Husain repeated Jordan's commitment to bringing the Palestine Liberation Organization into peace negotiations, which, the Jordanians argue, should be under United Nations auspices.

He is reported to have taken a tough line during his talks with Mr Haig, insisting that the Americans may have had that Jordan might be



Mrs Thatcher says goodbye to King Husain after their talks yesterday.

brought closer to the Camp David peace process.

The Secretary of State arrived in London this evening after his talks in the Middle East. Lord Carrington was arriving home in the early hours of this morning from his trip to Pakistan and the Far East, and the two men are scheduled to meet tomorrow.

In Riyadh yesterday Mr Haig paid a ceremonial call on King Khalid and had talks with Crown Prince Fahd Saud and Prince al-Faisal, the Foreign Minister, which centred mostly on the problems in Lebanon.

The Secretary of State expressed optimism because Syria appeared ready to make an unspecified change in its position.

Mr Haig spoke of a "modi-

fied or new position which appears to be coming from Damascus". Declining to go into details, he said: "I would prefer not to complicate a process which offers great promise until it develops somewhat further."

At the airport, before leaving for Rome and London, Mr Haig said his meetings with the Saudis had been cordial, productive, and in true friendship, most frank.

Prince Saud made clear that, despite the Reagan Administration's warnings about the Soviet threat, Saudi Arabia regards Israel as the main cause of instability and insecurity in the Gulf region.

However, he added that the Soviet Union also posed a

threat to regional and international security.

Major-General Shlomo Gazit, retire director of Israeli military intelligence, said yesterday that Saudi Arabia's acquisition of highly sophisticated modern weapon systems may force Israel into a preemptive strike.

He told a seminar at Tel Aviv University that the ground-to-ground missiles and modern ground-to-air missiles acquired by the Saudis threatened Israel's air supremacy, which was essential for its survival.

He said that Israel could not get involved in a war on its eastern front knowing that the Saudis had a big concentration of first-class weapons which might strike at any moment.

Romanian gymnastic trainers defect in US

Washington, April 8.—Three leading Romanian gymnastic trainers, including the coach of the 1976 Olympic gold medal winner Nadia Comaneci, have defected to the United States, the State Department confirmed today.

Bela Karoly, aged 38, his wife Marta, aged 38, and Gera Pozsar, aged 31, the top choreographer for the Romanian national gymnastics team, defected on March 30 in New York while on a tour of the United States with the Romanian women's gymnastics team.

An official said the three defectors met representatives of the Romanian Embassy at the State Department yesterday to give formal notification of their decision. They had applied to the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service for political asylum on April 2.

Left behind in Romania were the Karoly's seven-year-old daughter and Pozsar's wife and infant daughter. They asked Romanian embassy officials to allow their families to join them in the United States, a request usually granted to defectors' families within a year.

The trainers said their decision to defect was prompted by their long dissatisfaction with the Romanian State Central Federation of Athletics. They said they could not tolerate chronic interference by the federation with their training methods including those for Miss Comaneci.

"The state left us alone until we were really successful," Karoly told the *Washington Post*. "But once we produced a superstar, they wanted to take her away from us."

Under Karoly's coaching at the 1976 games in Montreal,



Bela Karoly: Coached Nadia Comaneci to Olympic golds.

14-year-old Comaneci won five individual and team medals—three gold, a silver and one bronze. She was an instant international success.

Both the Karoly's and Mr Pozsar belong to Romania's Hungarian ethnic minority but they refused to discuss this further. They claimed that three other pupils, Emilia Eberle, Georgeta Gabor and Teodora Uneanu had been withdrawn from their school.

A State Department official said the three trainers complained to the Romanian representatives at yesterday's meeting of the federation's interference.

The three said they hope to resume their careers in the United States.—UPI.

Reporters starved of essential facts

Mr Haig's aloof style angers press corps

From Christopher Walker

Amman, April 8

During his first tour of the Middle East, Mr Alexander Haig, the "vicar" of American foreign policy, has so far conspicuously failed to please an alien group of his listeners, the State Department press corps.

As the large American party prepared to fly on to Saudi Arabia yesterday, representatives of the so-called "travelling press"—the journalists invited to travel in the American government aircraft—could be heard booing the Secretary of State's chief spokesman, Mr Dean Fisher, an amiable former *Time* magazine correspondent.

The reporters, some of them veterans of the Kissinger heyday, were complaining that they were starved of essential information about the content of Mr Haig's private talks, and were being allowed virtually no access to him.

The elusiveness of the Secretary of State is widely regarded as a ploy to avoid embarrassing questions about his much-maligned behaviour in the wake of the shooting of President Reagan.

Yesterday, a press conference was cancelled and Mr Haig talked swiftly out of the airport lounge after reading a bland statement to the cameras.

The unhappiness of the press corps is significant because favourable reporting could do much to rehabilitate Mr Haig's reputation as a statesman, among the most frequent complaints is that the Secretary of State is unwilling to delegate properly to his subordinates.

One senior correspondent said: "So far, we have been to three countries, and he has done nothing diplomatically or personally to make anyone forget his big mistake. Up to now, the trip has not been a great success, and that is what our copy has been reflecting."

Mr Haig's aides are acutely conscious of his precarious political standing in Washington, and all questions on the subject are hastily sidestepped.

Emphasis is laid in private comments on the importance of the "substance" of America's new foreign policy, particularly its determined anti-Soviet tone.

Unlike his immediate predecessor, Mr Edmund Muskie, Mr Haig has shown little inclination to wander into the back of the government aircraft and relax with a drink and an off-the-record chat between stopovers.

"At the moment, the relationship between us is pretty strained," an American magazine reporter said.

In spite of the friction, all the correspondents acknowledge that the "vicar" has a far more pragmatic and less simplistic grasp of foreign policy issues than his main rivals in the Reagan Administration. But they claim that it has not been demonstrated effectively on the Middle East tour, where any chance of positive achievements was, in any case, limited by the brevity of the stopovers.

By the time he left Saudi Arabia today, it had become clear that Mr Haig had not succeeded in establishing the new "strategic consensus" for which he was looking, with both the Saudi and Jordanian monarchs insisting that a rapid solution to the Palestinian problem remains the essential basis from which to counter the Soviet threat to the region.

The dilemma faced by the Secretary of State was most clearly identified by Mr Abba Eban, Israel's shadow foreign minister, who said in a radio interview during the brief visit to Jerusalem that it arose because "your friends are our enemies."

The failure to achieve any immediate reconciliation of different view points cannot be wholly blamed on Mr Haig, but there was a feeling that the trip succeeded more in showing up the differences between Egypt and Israel on one side, and Jordan and Saudi Arabia on the other. More time and more subtlety was needed if such differences were to be bridged.

This is seen as a serious stumbling-block to further development of the EEC's Middle East peace-making efforts, since it exposes the ten to 15 years' time lag that, for the sake of Israel, they are prepared to treat with a terrorist organization bent on the destruction of the Jewish state.

The British, with some support, argue that the final joint communiqué issued after the conference must contain an endorsement of the principles set out by EEC heads of government at their summit meeting in Venice last June.

Then they spoke of "the right to existence and to security of all states in the region, including Israel, and justice for all peoples, which implies the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people".

The conference is also of value to them because it could be represented as awarding an EEC seal of diplomatic approval to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), which is a member of the Arab League and would participate fully at the meeting.

Although there is no question of the EEC granting formal recognition to the PLO, it is acknowledged that the spectacle of Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, sitting down to parley with EEC foreign ministers would be a potent propaganda coup for the Arab side.

Behind the delay, which is by no means unwelcome to the EEC, lies a conflict over the political objectives and purpose of the conference, which the Arab countries see as an opportunity to advertise, and canvass support for their view of the Middle East conflict with Israel.

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Trustee Savings Bank Savings Account	4.00%	Available at your branch. Limited amount elsewhere.	Interest from next day.
National Savings Ordinary Account	5.00%	Maximum withdrawal without removal of book £30. Up to £100, book is taken from you for about 1 week.	Interest is only paid from the 1st of the month following.
Piggy bank, sock, jam jar etc.	NIL	Ever ready—but liable to vanish...	NEVER NEVER

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Nato ministers voice concern over Russian troop movements but leave door open for negotiations

Frederick Bonhoff, NATO Secretary General, said today that NATO ministers attending a meeting in Bonn had expressed concern over the Russian troop movements and the possibility of a new arms race. He said the ministers had agreed to continue negotiations on arms control.

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Gardener held on way to shoot President

From Patrick Brogan, Washington, April 8. A 23-year-old gardener was arrested in a bus station in New York yesterday. He was on his way from New Haven, Connecticut, to Washington to shoot the President.

He is Edward Richardson, 23, who was arrested in a bus station in New York yesterday. He was on his way from New Haven, Connecticut, to Washington to shoot the President.

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Edward Richardson: He modelled himself on John Hinckley.

Richardson, in his letter, claims to belong to the "Left" (the put the word in inverted commas himself) and addressed his letter to "the fascist powers".

The letter said: "If I cannot get at the President, I am prepared to play some other prominent 'right wing' political figure" (again, Mr Richardson's inverted commas).

"I depart now for Washington, DC, to bring to completion the assassination attempt," the letter said. "I am a member of the American Nazi Party, and was recently elected to the party's National Council." Needless to say, no one has ever

heard of an international people's court.

A great number of journalistic man-hours have been put into investigating John Hinckley's background. The details of his boring, unhappy life are now more or less established, and the psychiatrists who have him to themselves in a secluded prison in North Carolina are presumably going behind that biography to discover what made him a failure and what made him shoot the President.

His obsession for Jodie Foster is offered as a motive, but that explains nothing. The "Son of Sam" who shot lovers in parked cars in New York, got his orders from a neighbour's dog. In Mr Hinckley's case the ex-

planation is not the film star, or the plot of her most celebrated film *Taxi Driver*, but a case of the weak son of a successful father, unable to cope with his own inability to live up to his family's expectations.

His father is a millionaire oil man, Young Hinckley had every advantage that money could buy. The letter he wrote to Jodie Foster is well-written and perfectly lucid.

Now we will find out about Edward Richardson. He came from a middle class suburb of Philadelphia. One newspaper says that his family's neighbours describe him as a friendly young man who seemed unable to keep a job.

There have been reports from Kabul that four Afghan divisions have been moved from the capital to fight the guerrillas in the countryside.

clution being drawn is that Soviet troops are taking their place in and around the city.

Mr Shah Muhammad Dost, the Afghan Foreign Minister, said in an interview published in India this week that Kabul might ask for more Russian troops in view of President Reagan's statement that the Americans would consider sending arms to the mujahidin.

But in the pro-Moscow newspaper *Parade*, published in Delhi, Mr Dost was reported as saying that "we have no need for an increase in the limited Soviet contingent in Afghanistan".

He added, however, that "we are taking into account all the developments around us..."

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Reagan recovery is slower than doctors had hoped

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, April 8. President Reagan continues to recover from his wound; but his progress is slower than his staff and doctors hoped last week.

A White House official said this afternoon that he might leave hospital between Saturday and Monday, which is considerably later than doctors and members of the President's staff led many to believe last week.

In the first two days after the assassination attempt, on March 30, officials insisted mightily that Mr Reagan was making a remarkable recovery, that physically he was much younger than his 70 years and that he would be back at work immediately.

Now reality has caught up with them. Mr Reagan is indeed recovering. There will be no permanent damage to his health, but he will be young for his age; but a man of 70 takes longer to get over a bullet wound than a young man.

The Secret Servicemen who was wounded in the stomach

was released yesterday and the Washington policeman who had a bullet in his back will be released in a few days.

Today's Bulletin on the President states that his temperature is nearly normal, and that he had a chest X-ray this morning which shows "further clearing" of the wounded area.

Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, represented the President at a big Republican Party fund-raising dinner last night. It was held in the Hilton hotel here, where Mr Reagan addressed a convention of trade unionists before he was shot.

Mr Bush continues to represent Mr Reagan on such occasions in Washington; but all his out-of-town engagements have been cancelled except for a speech in Alabama.

As a temporary security measure, which may be made permanent, the White House has stopped distributing the Vice-President's daily schedule for publication.

Local newspapers and news agencies have agreed not to publish such details.

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South Africa to recall trains from Zimbabwe

From Ray Kennedy, April 8. South Africa has decided to withdraw railway locomotives on loan to Zimbabwe in what appears to be a deliberate move to antagonize the Salisbury Government of Mr Robert Mugabe.

Simultaneous announcements made in Salisbury and Johannesburg today said that 25 diesel locomotives now leased by South African Railways to Zimbabwe would be pulled back to South Africa by June 1.

Zimbabwe badly needs the locomotives to help with the transportation of this season's record maize crop. South Africa has no urgent need for them and the decision to recall them will almost certainly be interpreted as a further effort by Pretoria to embarrass Mr Mugabe's Government.

South Africa has already announced it is ending a preferential trade agreement with Zimbabwe which enabled independence Rhodesia to withstand the international sanctions resulting from UDI, and last week also laid down that Zimbabwean visitors to South Africa would in future require visas.

However, the decision to recall the locomotive could rebound. South African Railways' stock is built by the local subsidiary of General Electric Corporation of America and, although there is a high quantity of local construction, most of the vital parts including the engines are wholly imported.

South Africa's efforts to deprive Zimbabwe of locomotive power at a time when it badly needs it could rebound to follow to block supplies of vital parts and spares.

Canada is reported to be ready to send locomotives to Zimbabwe to bridge the gap; but it will take time to get them there and they are unlikely to arrive before the June 1 deadline.

At the same time it is not clear that South Africa, having announced its decision to recall its locomotives, will get them back before replacements arrive.

In Salisbury today, Mr Josiah Chinamasa, Minister of Transport and Power, said Zimbabwe was to port railway trucks to help with the distribution of the maize crop. Sweden is believed to have offered 200 trucks as a start to make the Zimbabwe National Railways independent of South Africa.

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Namibians fail to meet US envoy

By Our Diplomatic Staff, April 8. A delegation from Namibia left London yesterday, apparently without meeting the United States diplomat who has been designated to formulate the Reagan Administration's policy on the disputed territory.

Mr Peter Kalangua, the president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), the South African-backed ruling party in Namibia, flew to Europe while Mr Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State-designate, spent the day with Foreign Office officials preparing for a tour of 10 African countries.

Today he flies to Nairobi and later will visit South Africa, Angola and other countries.

The Reagan administration wants to explore the possibility of solving the Namibia problem by reaching agreement first on a constitution, as in the case of Zimbabwe, and then holding elections.

South Africa and the DTA hope for favourable treatment from Washington, although in the past the Reagan administration will not necessarily ignore the views of black Africa and the West European states that engineered the United Nations agreement.

In London yesterday the South West African People's Organisation issued a statement expressing concern over United States policy and repeating the statement by Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, that there are no negotiations on the international agreements on Namibia already reached.

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Nato's eye into Poland

From a Special Correspondent, Bornholm Island, April 8. Bornholm Island should really exist only in the pages of a thriller writer. The Baltic Sea mists which rise around it are dark, the hunched old buildings are grey, the shapes of warships far beyond the deserted, snow white beaches might have come from Erskine Childers' ageless blockbuster *Riddle of the Sands*.

But the Martian clusters of radar reception aerials behind the wind-ruffled trees and the small Danish naval patrol boat that sets out each dawn to watch the Soviet Navy's ominous peregrinations, would perhaps fit more appropriately into an Alistair Maclean novel.

Bornholm is a squashed, rectangular hump of land in the dead centre of the Baltic straits just 78 miles from the Polish coast. It is Nato's eastern-most eye into Poland and right now even the Russians must dearly wish that it existed only in fictional form.

Not far from the little fishing port of Nekso, for example, there is a space-age cantonment of radar masts and radar dishes marked by a small yellow notice in Danish which reads: "Military area. Entry forbidden."

Rabbits skip and play among the silver radar wires that run into the fields, for example, and there is a space-age cantonment of radar masts and radar dishes marked by a small yellow notice in Danish which reads: "Military area. Entry forbidden."

Again, like Mr Brezhnev, he repeated the belief that the dish communists have enough strength to overcome the "incessant" overt attacks.

The East Germans made no mention of Poland but it is clear that the situation there is uppermost in the exchanges the delegates even though there are no signs yet that a Warsaw Pact summit may be agreed here.

One thing, however, is clear, osow may reluctantly swallow the idea of an independent side union in Poland, but not the idea of any Communist reform.

Last month's meeting of the Polish Central Committee viciously contributed to the fact that the party was in danger of disintegrating. Mr Brezhnev in fact drew the rattle with Czechoslovakia, said that the Czechoslovak communists had their experience and had proved convincingly that counter-revolutionary plans had no prospect of success.

In another context but clearly this is a note of irritation by Brezhnev over Poland's eastern warnings over Poland's "laying down preliminary conditions" and "claiming one kind of right" to order out the Soviet Union in "virtually all places of the planet".

He said: "They require us to up value vital interests of our security, or not to aid our friends."

Mr Brezhnev did not specifically mention Poland in this context but in asking the rhetorical question "what are the West's reactions if the Russians led the same of the West in areas where its own interests are directly concerned, he made meaning quite clear.

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Poles praise Brezhnev 'foresight'

Warsaw, April 8.—A Polish newspaper today praised President Brezhnev for foresight as the country looked to the bright side of the Soviet leader's latest policy statement on the situation in Poland.

"Leonid Brezhnev has again displayed far-sightedness in his assessment of the complex processes now taking place in Poland," the Government newspaper *Pravda* said in a commentary on the Soviet leader's address in Prague yesterday.

Polish officials said they were reassured by Mr Brezhnev's statement that he supposed the Soviet Union's communists could resolve their problems alone. The official news agency noted that alarm in the West over Poland's fate had subsided.

Western diplomats in Warsaw said that it was clear from Mr Brezhnev's statement that Poland had been given more time. They said, however, the basic crisis inherent in the country's liberalization process appeared far from resolved in the eyes of the Kremlin and other communist governments in Eastern Europe.

Mr Brezhnev talked in terms of rebuffing the enemies of socialism and the Soviet media attacked the Solidarity trade union again today, indicating that it regarded the very existence of the movement as anti-socialist.

The Polish party leadership has often accused elements in Solidarity of anti-socialism, but it has never used the term against the entire movement. The Polish Communists have said that they want to live with Solidarity.

Prague speech: Mr Brezhnev will make another speech in Prague this week, Czechoslovak officials said today, amid clear signs of continuing pressure on Poland. (AP reports from Prague).

Mr Brezhnev disappeared from this afternoon's session of the Czechoslovak communist Party congress to be involved in his own series of private political consultations.

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Mrs Thatcher's summit style draws heavy fire

From David Wood, Strasbourg, April 8. When Mrs Margaret Thatcher's advisers provide her with a summary of today's House of the European Parliament's debate on the Maastricht treaty, her hopes to make the British presidency of the Council of Ministers a landmark in Community reform will be badly dashed. The British presidency begins in July and lasts until December 31.

Mr Thatcher, after a successful earlier campaign for budgetary justice for Britain, wants Lord Carrington's presidency of the Council to go down in EEC history as a serious beginning of a period for restructuring Community finances and much else.

The Prime Minister needs to be able to meet the Labour case that Community membership has been adverse to British interests.

As today's debate often showed, she starts from a European position of weakness. After reports on Maastricht from the Dutch Foreign Minister and the Luxembourg president of the Commission, several Continental MEPs attacked Mrs Thatcher's summit style.

Herr Rudi Arndt, a West German Socialist, called Mrs Thatcher stubborn, with her main concern the money she could extract from Community membership. Signor Mariano Rumor, a former Italian Prime Minister, talked of national egoisms becoming serious obstacles to development.

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Fresh forces go into Afghanistan

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, April 8. The Russians are apparently making a significant increase in the strength of their forces occupying Afghanistan, according to reports reaching here today.

A diplomatic source said that during the past week there have been a large number of flights into Kabul by Soviet transport aircraft carrying troops. The source estimates that about 20,000 soldiers have arrived in recent days.

Another source, however, usually more cautious in its assessments, says that up to 10,000 men—a division—have been brought in as reinforcements.

The Russians already have about 85,000 men stationed in Afghanistan to keep the Babrak Karmal regime in power.

There have been reports from Kabul that four Afghan divisions have been moved from the capital to fight the guerrillas in the countryside.

clution being drawn is that Soviet troops are taking their place in and around the city.

PARLIAMENT, April 8, 1981

Slow murder of Book of Common Prayer

House of Commons

Viscount Cranborne (South Dorset, C) was given leave to bring in the Prayer Book Protection Bill, which would ensure that an incumbent would hold one service a month according to the 1662 rites if 20 parishioners petitioned him to do so. Voting was 132 to 130—a majority in favour of 22.

Viscount Cranborne said the Book of Common Prayer should be enjoyed by every worshipper who wanted it instead of being confined to a museum room where only scholars and the cognoscenti could appreciate it.

This Prayer Book was one of the glories of English literature. (Cheers.) The contents and forms of service in it had formed the basis of part of the tradition of England and enriched the language.

Until recently the Book of Common Prayer was available to all who wanted it. He said that Mr William Van Straubenzee, Second Church Estates Commissioner, who

opposed his Bill, would be supporting a policy of slow murder which had achieved the slow murder of the Book of Common Prayer. Mr Van Straubenzee also believed that as a result of the 1974 measure a concordat was put into operation between Parliament and the Synod of the Church of England, providing clearly that the initiative in legislation governing the Church should come from the Synod and not the House.

But the concordat had been made with conditions. The then Archbishop of Canterbury had said in the House of Lords that it was not a measure for abolishing the Book of Common Prayer and that which could be altered only by Parliament.

But it was not Parliament which was in danger of breaching the concordat. The Church had breached it. Many people up and down the country had found it impossible to find a service where the Book of Common Prayer was used.

The clerics of the Church of England (the said) have brought about the beginning of the slow strangulation of one of the greatest glories of this country.

He had it on good authority that in most theological colleges in the provinces of Canterbury and York the 1662 prayer book was not in use at all.

There is a new generation of Church of England priests (the said) who do not know of the prayer book and, therefore, are all too happy to override the rights of the parochial church council.

Mr William Van Straubenzee (Wokingham, C) opposing the Bill, said it should be remembered that in 1974 it was the Church that asked that the Book of Common Prayer should continue to be enshrined in the laws of the land.

This was no concession wrested from unwilling clerics. It was freely given because at that time it was inconceivable, as it was today, that this heritage of the English language should be abolished either by Church or by state.

On the other hand, it surely must be acknowledged that for many years the Church sought to serve the language of Cranmer and the sixteenth-century reformers did not carry the same force as it had to their forefathers and that alternative, not substitute, services needed to be provided if their worship was to be relevant.

In 1974 when giving the Church freedom the House approved safeguards. He believed that in the 1980s this was the right way to deal with the infinite variety of circumstances to be found in the Church and not by way of the rigidity of a Bill tied to a number regardless of the size of the congregation.

He had checked the 14 theological colleges and it was true—he regretted it was true—that in four of them the 1662 Book of Common Prayer was not in use. In four it was in use occasionally and in six it was used regularly. This was a different picture to the one which had just been presented.

Progress in the House had brought it to a point where the House had to decide whether it was to increase its authority over

its own affairs. That was because it was felt that it was no longer necessary to be constrained as they were now and not as they used to be, to concern themselves with the details of matters domestic to the Church, particularly when they had approved the setting up of representative institutions whereby the voice of clergy and laity could be heard.

The Bill intervened in an important area where Parliament had decreed that decisions should be a matter for the Church, and in respect of which Parliament had approved an elaborate system of decision-making and safeguards.

In doing so, the Bill went against the whole of the trend which had been outlined and which represented an understanding both by Church and state of their respective roles in the days in which they lived.

He would seek, if there was a division, to persuade MPs in all parts that it should not be approved. (Cheers.) After the division, the Bill was formally read a first time.

Scottish MP named by Speaker

Mr Ronald Brown, Labour MP for Edinburgh, Leith, was named by the Speaker (Mr George Thomas) for "gross discourtesy to the Chair" during the course of a question to Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, Solicitor General for Scotland.

In a supplementary question about people selling newspapers being charged with breach of the peace, Mr Brown accused Mr Fairbairn of "gross discourtesy to the Chair" in the ensuing uproar, he continued to shout audibly at Mr Fairbairn despite being ordered several times by the Speaker to resume his seat.

After further exchanges from a second position, the Speaker named him. Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, the most senior minister present, then announced a motion that Mr Brown be suspended from the service of the House, and the Speaker ordered Mr Brown out after MPs had unanimously voted for the motion.

As Mr Brown left the Chamber he shouted: "So much for democracy." Mr Brown had tabled a question asking Mr Fairbairn how many people selling newspapers were charged with breach of the peace during the day.

Mr Fairbairn (Kinross and West

Porthsmouth, C) regretted the statistics for persons convicted for breach of the peace do not disclose the circumstances of the offence.

Mr Brown: The couple, commonly called the Glasgow Two, were charged and convicted for breach of the peace. Most importantly, they were charged under the Prevention of Terrorism Act? Why should the minister deny it and lie to us... (Loud protests.)

The Speaker shouted: "Order!" Several times, but Mr Brown continued to harangue Mr Fairbairn as MPs protested.

When Mr Brown finally resumed his seat, the Speaker said: "Mr Brown is fortunate he is not being named. He knows that when I get up he should resume his seat. I was extremely discourteous. I have no wish to name him. Although Mr Brown only came at the end of the session he has been here two days."

Mr Brown continued to shout from his seat. As MPs chanted "Name him" and Mr Brown shouted back, the Speaker said: "It is not my duty to name him. Mr Brown leave this Chamber for the rest of the day."

gross discourtesy to the Chair (Shouts of "Out!") Some would move the motion. Would a minister move the motion? Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland: I beg to say Mr Ronald Brown has been suspended from the service of the House. As MPs shouted their assent, Speaker Lord Hailsham said: "I shall withdraw from the House."

Mr Brown: "So much for democracy." Later, on a point of order, Hugh Brown (Glasgow, Pro Labour) said it was always a pity when an MP had a name in the House.

I am not trying to suggest said that the decision was a (Cries of "You must not") I would ask, perhaps by way of question, that I know the details of the incident and I am satisfied that the action by police and the Crown Office was correct. I would draw attention to an inconsistency in the reply the Solicitor General. The Speaker (Mr George Thomas) said: "We cannot now put the whole House against me when I put the question (Cries of "You must not") I have given him an opportunity leave this House for one day."

Lord Chancellor says laity is safeguarded

House of Lords

The new services of the Church of England had been the desire not of the laity so much as of the clergy, Lord Sudeley (C) said when he moved the second reading of the Prayer Book Protection Bill, a similar measure to that introduced earlier in the Commons.

The Bill left the decision whether to use the Prayer Book for certain services to a given number of members of the church electoral roll who could present a petition to the incumbent of the parish. At present the decision was made for all except occasional services by the parochial church council, while PCs could not act in this way.

There was always the suspicion and undertone of commercial influence in anything else. What cash conscious parish would buy the Book of Common Prayer if it got a 20 per cent discount on purchases of the Alternative Services Book?

The young clergy promoted the new services owing to lack of exposure to the Prayer Book at theological colleges. If the Bill got second reading he would put down an amendment requiring that the Prayer Book should be required for worship at such colleges.

The trend towards new services was not assisted by the failure of the BBC to observe the same impartiality in broadcasting services as they gave in allocating time to other points of view of the two main political parties. Holy Communion and Matins according to the Prayer Book were hardly ever broadcast and Christmas services broadcast were according to the alternative services.

The Synod was not entitled to commit doctrinal irregularities. But in these matters it could act as advocate, jury and judge at the same time.

He hoped that many peers would feel now that such powers as Parliament had given to the Synod on liturgical matters it could safely take away.

The Bishop of Durham said he was less anxious than Lord Sudeley to ensure that the Book of Common Prayer was retained and used as a rightful part of the heritage of the Church of England. There was no room for doubt about the Church's officially expressed intention to preserve a fair balance

As chairman of the committee which conceived the idea of the Alternative Services Book, he brought it to fruition he wanted to assure the House that all through that long process one of the dominant concerns in the mind of the committee was how to ensure that the Book of Common Prayer was not irreparably damaged by the publication of the ASB.

He believed the General Synod had made a bit of a mess of the Lord's Prayer. They had done something which combined the worst of all worlds and which they would have to take a hard look at. If the Bill was passed it would lead to the most extraordinary anomalies.

He hoped the Bill would be withdrawn. Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said that normality in the House was a neutral position towards private members' Bills. But in matters which raised grave questions of constitutional propriety and usage that could not be the case.

In this case the Government believed the issue did arise. He had to tell the House without equivocation the Government could not recommend the passage of the Bill through Parliament.

The body of the Bill was to do with the main service in the morning in the parish church—not the marriage service, confirmation service, baptism service, not with doctrine, or with bias of the BBC or with jiggery-pokery which might or might not go on in church council.

The question was facing the House as to whether 20 persons who happened to be on the electoral roll of the parish are entitled to impose upon the rest of them once a month what is called the Book of Common Prayer.

The measure in 1974 provided adequate safeguards for the laity if they would only use it. There must be a two-thirds majority of the Synod and the forms of the Book of Common Prayer must remain available and they law with the incumbent and the PCC, which was elected.

The Bill provided that notwithstanding that the wish of the Synod of the Church of England was that the PCC a minority of 20 was entitled to impose a form of service. The Bill was a constitutional anomaly and under its terms it did not matter if the church was empty or full or if the majority or worshippers liked the service or not.

Categories of pensioners who will be protected against inflation

The Government had caused large numbers of people, including the elderly and poor, who had been given priority had been given scant consideration, Lord Sudeley (Lab) said when he opened debate in which he called attention to the effects of the Government's expenditure cuts on those in the community who depended on government aid and local authority services.

He said his speech was a plea to Government backbench peers because nothing he would say would make any impression on the Government. From Bench which had shown it was resistant to change and dogmatic in its beliefs.

During the past two years the Government had introduced three Budgets and two social security measures. The legislation adopted which had imposed hardship on a large section of the community who were already finding it difficult to get by.

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, a Lord in Waiting, said the Government was as concerned as the Labour Party to maintain the fabric of a caring and compassionate society. The Government had had to find savings in social security but it was inaccurate to speak as though the structure developed by Beveridge onwards lay in ruins.

Expenditure was rising, and it would continue to rise by 8 per cent in real terms between 1980-81 and 1983-84.

He could clarify the basis for future uprating of social security benefits. An Under Secretary of State for Social Security had written to Mr Jeffrey Rooker (an Opposition spokesman on social security) about the pledge given on shortfall by the Prime Minister. The Government was committed to compensate pensioners fully for price increases over the lifetime of this Parliament.

Pensioners included, in addition to those receiving national insurance retirement pensions, recipients of the following benefits: widow's pension, including the widowed mother's allowance and the widow's allowance, industrial death benefit paid by way of widow's or widower's pension, war disability pension and industrial injury disablement pension, war widow's pension, attendance allowance, invalidity

care allowance and non-contributory invalidity pension. The supplementary pension, now aligned with the retirement pension, would be similarly protected.

In spite of the savings made in social security, the gross social security cash output for the year just ended was about £23,000m in real terms in 1979-80 and was expected to be about £27,400m.

Spending on the personal social services rose by more than 4 per cent in real terms in 1979-80 and it seemed likely that expenditure would be maintained at around the same level in 1980-81.

It was nonsense to talk about the cuts seriously affecting those who depended on the local authority personal social services. The Government had specifically asked local authorities to protect the most vulnerable and this was clearly being done.

In real terms the money available for the NHS was about 2.4 per cent more in 1980-81 than in 1978-79. It had made steady progress in reducing the national waiting list, from the peak of 752,000 in March 1978, to 641,000 in September 1980. Total expenditure on the NHS in 1981-82 was expected to be some 1.4 per cent over the planned level of 1980-81.

Achievement of the development plan was crucially dependent on responsible bargaining by NHS staff. Increases higher than the 6 per cent cash limit would set into the money made available for service development.

Lord Banks (Lab) said he was concerned that personal social services had been singled out for particularly severe treatment. He was struck by the small amount of money given on shortfalls by the Prime Minister. The Government was committed to compensate pensioners fully for price increases over the lifetime of this Parliament.

The Bishop of Liverpool said voluntary organisations, important in the welfare of the community, were being cut across the board. They should always beware of talking about cuts across the board, because they were not. Lord Soper (Lab) said that alongside the depletion of services there was a lamentable increase in the number of people in need of services. If a week was a long time in politics an afternoon was a long time for an elderly person.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said the ability to maintain the social services depended on the re-creation of the power to create wealth. There was a limit to the expansion that was possible in a stagnant national wealth was not growing.

Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge (SDP) said the Government was questioning the justice of reducing acceptable economies from the imposition of unacceptable hardship on innocent and defenceless people.

Lady Elliot of Harwood (C) said services should be improved not by increasing debt or inflation but as things improved. Until it happened the country should live within its means.

The Bishop of Guildford said he questioned the justice of reducing social benefits in order to secure tax reductions for the more prosperous. He should realise that he is destroying the hopes and ambitions of young people. Will he admit his failures and agree to argue for a change of strategy?

Mr Fletcher (Labour) said the Government's strategy is on target—(Labour laughter)—and we are tackling the problems we set out to tackle in the correct order of priority.

Mr Ian Sprouth (Aberdeen, South, C): There is an urgent need to restructure the apprenticeship system. Too often the present apprenticeship system operates both against young people themselves and against the industry by being too rigid and concentrating too much on time served rather than on standards and achievements.

Mr Fletcher: I entirely agree. The Government is busy studying this problem.

Mr Martin O'Neill, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, East of Scotland and Clydeside, said: How does he hope to motivate young people at present in the education system? The unemployment figures like these: Is he prepared to consider seriously the mandatory grant system for those young people who are at full-time school education and at the moment have no prospect of getting jobs when they leave school?

Europe almost at stagnation point

European Parliament Strasbourg

The EEC Commission would not spare any effort to find a basis for an agreement on fishing Mr Walter de Gennep, President of the Commission, said in a debate on the outcome of the EEC summit meeting in Maastricht last month.

Fishing was taken on a symbolic value (he said). The European fact that the European Community was a failure? It is not up to me to say that responsibility for the failure of the Community is prepared to take up the discussion again.

Criticism of the outcome of the summit was not particularly surprising. No historical decision were taken, but what was the problem? The meeting had shown that given the problems over fishing and agriculture Europe was cohesive and said the community was able to discuss its major problems.

The Commission and the Parliament (he said) are aware that the fishing Community is not perfect. There is almost a perfect stagnation but, given the prevalence of the economic crisis and the instability in the world in which we live, Europe is the only creature for course for resolving these difficulties.

Mr Chris van de Klauwe, President of the EEC Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister of the Netherlands, said that he hoped a fisheries policy would emerge when the time was ripe in a few months.

The immediate problems of recession faced by the Community were structural, and they called for a structural medium-term policy to create the prospects for more favourable employment. Short-term policies to stimulate demand would lead in nowhere, to the destruction of a long-term recovery.

Mr Hurler (Germany, EPP) said that the EEC had made extraordinary efforts if Poland asked for extraordinary aid. His group called on the Commission to eliminate immediately the problems which were hampering the rapid supply of food aid to Poland. The transport costs for the food should be financed from the Community budget.

Lord Bethell (London, North West, ED) said that the people of Poland and Afghanistan had a common cause against the belief in the Kremlin and of President Brezhnev that the Soviet Union was entitled to surround itself by a buffer zone and to occupy with its military those countries on its borders.

Mr Jacques Mureau (France, Soc) said that in Europe industrial production was falling rapidly and dramatically, unemployment was increasing with particular effects for young people, women and older workers, and restructuring had been rendered more difficult and the results more and more hazardous.

He was emerging in Europe (he said) a climate of resignation and apathy. This is dangerous and unacceptable. It is the outcome

of a lack of will, a lack of action and a lack of choice for the institutions.

Herr Egon Klepsch (Germany, EPP) said that the summit did not bring anything new.

Lady Ellis (Thames Valley, ED) said that the Council had failed to give the leadership which was needed from it. There was one glimmer of hope. At least the Council had looked more critically at some of the social and economic difficulties which had destroyed the confidence of the Community.

Here Rudi Arndt (Germany, Soc) said that fisheries was a classic example of how a simple issue of anti-European sentiment could be aroused. European solidarity was not one-way street.

This (he continued) has to be spelled out to the British Prime Minister.

Mr Adam Ferguson (Strathclyde, West, ED) said Herr Arndt's remarks had been invidious and fishing.

It should worry MPs that the fishing industry of half a dozen countries needed an agreement to survive. He hoped that the heads of state would not be so stupid as to ignore the fishing industry and the fishing industry.

Mr Rudi Arndt (Luxembourg, EPP) said that the summit had not advanced the European cause. Strategies of security and defence were still lacking.

As for the vexed question of the permanent site of the parliament, the solution of the status quo, if that was a solution, was far from satisfactory.

Too much propaganda was made of the meeting of the heads of government. The best thing would be to have the meeting but without an official communiqué. What was the value of a communiqué which was so vague as the last one?

European institutions would have to exploit their power. Parliament and the Commission would have to establish their relationship in the face of a Council which consisted of different ministers, who often contradicted one another.

If we are going to get rid of the present stagnation the continued governments will have to set together and each have a co-ordinator for European affairs. Mr Van de Klauwe, replying, said that Europe could only be democratic when it had a Parliament which spoke on a European basis. The many of his speeches in the debate had expressed national interests. The Parliament must be European, just as the Council with its many of his speeches in the debate had expressed national interests. The debate concluded.

Mr Robert MacLennan (Guthrie

Government strategy on target

There were more than 30,000 people under the age of 18 unemployed in Scotland in January, Mr Alexander Fletcher, Secretary of State for Scotland, said at a question time.

Mr Fletcher (Edinburgh, North, C): On April 5, 1979, 17,445 people under 18 years of age were registered as unemployed in Scotland. The number was 30,623. These figures are not seasonally adjusted and the January figures are normally higher because of the December school leaving date.

Mr Norman Hogg (East Dunbartonshire, Lab): That reply exposes this Government's disgraceful employment record. The Government's economic policy has caused the loss of jobs. He should realise that he is destroying the hopes and ambitions of young people. Will he admit his failures and agree to argue for a change of strategy?

Mr Fletcher: The Government's strategy is on target—(Labour laughter)—and we are tackling the problems we set out to tackle in the correct order of priority.

Mr Ian Sprouth (Aberdeen, South, C): There is an urgent need to restructure the apprenticeship system. Too often the present apprenticeship system operates both against young people themselves and against the industry by being too rigid and concentrating too much on time served rather than on standards and achievements.

Mr Fletcher: I entirely agree. The Government is busy studying this problem.

Mr Martin O'Neill, an Opposition spokesman on Scotland, East of Scotland and Clydeside, said: How does he hope to motivate young people at present in the education system? The unemployment figures like these: Is he prepared to consider seriously the mandatory grant system for those young people who are at full-time school education and at the moment have no prospect of getting jobs when they leave school?

Mr Fletcher: He is over pessimistic. Most youngsters in the YOP—70 per cent—achieve employment after the mandatory grant system for those young people who are at full-time school education and at the moment have no prospect of getting jobs when they leave school.

French not ready to reach agreement on fisheries

Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal (Chesham and Amersham, C), said that EEC payments under the May 1979 agreement on fishing were being paid.

Before March 31, Britain had received 554,500 of that £211m had been paid under the financial mechanism. Now per cent of the estimated entitlement and £43m under the supplementary scheme, 81 per cent of the estimated entitlement. The remainder of the 1980 refund would be paid in the autumn.

It was wrong to imply that it was the Government's fault that there was no agreement on fishing. Britain was ready but their French partners were not. Britain still was ready.

The Government had made clear that it could not agree to arrangements which did not allow for the vital interests of British fishermen in British waters. It could not be called anti-communautaire to refuse an agreed fishermen price and over British fishermen in British waters.

In future, the Community budget must not result in any member state being put in the unacceptable situation in which the Government found itself in when it took office—that of bearing an excessive burden of a billion pounds of the EEC. The Government was firmly opposed to raising the ceiling of 1 per cent VAT. The German and French Governments were firmly on the record with the same position.

A number of modest and important improvements in the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) were more thorough-going reforms.

Mr Laurence Parry (Brent, Soc) said the EEC initiative on the Middle East ignored the realities of the situation in the region. He said that the EEC was not a broker, they had put forward a fairly loaded kind of solution to the difficulties of the countries in that part of the world.

The initiative should be regarded, it was unlikely to preserve the kind of peace they were seeking.

Mr Richard Bode (Hull and Clough, Lab) said that before Britain entered the Community they were exporting 28 per cent more in manufactured goods than they were importing. Now per cent less. How many jobs had been lost and how many factories closed as a result of that grave deterioration in trading relationships with the Community?

Thousands of people in Hull were in danger of losing their livelihood if the Community continued dumping vast quantities of sugar on the British market. Mr Russell Johnston (Strathclyde, Lab) said it remained the position that withdrawal from the Community would do profound economic and political damage not only to the country but to the economic and political stability of the whole western alliance.

With the threat that existed in the East and within the framework of the new American Administration was far from clear it seemed more than contemplative wackiness rather than confronting the British natural state.

Mr Maurice Macdonald (Glasgow, C) said the Polish debt on other countries was £20,000 and on top of that Poland was to be added to the current debt balance of payments to private banks in Europe—especially Western Europe.

If their difficulties took too long to resolve, what was their economic position going to be, what would it have within the Community? He said that the Community was not a democracy when it had a Parliament which spoke on a European basis. The many of his speeches in the debate had expressed national interests. The Parliament must be European, just as the Council with its many of his speeches in the debate had expressed national interests. The debate concluded.

All that was left now was final sell-out which would be after the French president's election. There would be a sell-out on exclusive zones of economic preference, a sell-out on manufacturing and the end of the CAP were being fought for by the depletion of the revenue was being frittered in financing the debt queue. Government had created by the massive policy and enormous burdens of the membership of the Common Market.

The British presidency of Community from July 1 should a golden opportunity to reform CAP and restructure the budget. The Minister of Agriculture would be chairing Council of Agriculture Ministers and the Foreign Office and the Ministry of Finance would be a radical change in that situation was expected a lot.

The Government had been for the housewife, the taxi and British industry. Unless it were fundamental and radical change in the way the Treaty of Rome would be treated, the Government would not be able to do it.

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The British presidency of Community from July

No need to cut cornices

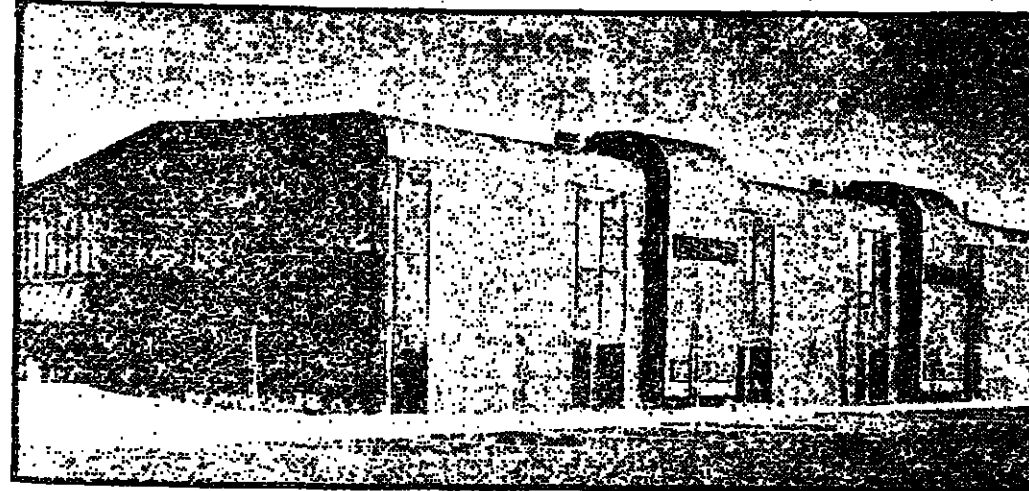
... the current architectural austerity is not a matter of inevitability arising from modern materials and methods, but a matter of choice."

Much of the pleasure people obtain from historic buildings derives from their architectural detail. Even so, that unparalleled architectural topographer can spend almost an entire page dissecting the details of one portion of, say, Salisbury Cathedral, whetting one's appetite with glimpses of moldings, clefts, leaf sprays, lancets, crockets, cinquefoils, spandrels and paterae.

At the back of each of his volumes, there are 23 pages explaining architectural terms and details which encompass the entire vocabulary of pre-Modern Movement architecture. Through such details a building might gain its proportion, its elegance, its decorative values and its delight. However, pioneering Modern Movement architects sought to achieve these qualities by other methods: architecture, wrote Le Corbusier, is "the masterly, correct and magnificent play of masses brought together in light". So out went everything else.

That does not mean that modern architects have not gone on (at considerable lengths) about detailing. That Woman of Modern Architecture, Mies Van Der Rohe, solemnly declared that "God is in the details", and it is clear that the traditionalists and what the moderns understood by the word "detail" must differ. Otherwise Mies must have been consigning most modern architecture, including his own, to the realms of godlessness.

The bits of historic architecture that attract attention derive mainly from two sources: either the celebration of some necessary function, such as producing a gigantic carved head as the keystone for a doorway, or the creation of a composite piece of architecture by the building of many little details, such as the patterned brickwork in Butterfield's churches. Opportunities occurred wherever two materials conjoined: such as a



Top: Chloride Technical's building at Swinton, Manchester. Left: Lindsafarne Priory. Right: Detail in Castle Street, Nottingham.

timber doorframe in a plaster wall, which provides scope for some of those splendidly carved architraves. Frequently, save in the incised Greek key decoration used by Hawksmoor and Soane, the details projected from the flat plane of the wall creating relief and texture. The details usually changed with the technology of the time: with the arrival of cast iron and trains, the foliate decoration in railway stations was created in cast iron instead of stone. Its purpose was still to enhance the structure in which it was set.

There is some debate as to who was responsible for much of the architectural detail. Wren and other great architects (including most of the Arts and Crafts architects and Sir Robert Lorimer), having sketched out the disposition of what was required, left the details to craftsmen or masons. It is possible that the thought of spending days designing window frames to keep the water out would never have occurred to them as a duty of the architect, that was the job of the builder. Yet nowadays, to most architects detail is not a matter of aesthetics but purely of how one thing fits to the

next. The cusps and spandrels have been replaced by a new vocabulary of decorative elements: epoxy resins, mastics, polyurethanes, joint compounds, granules, chipboards, plasterboards, wood substitutes, composites and polyester based membranes (whatever they may be).

The 23 pages of Pevsner's details would have to be multiplied by several thousand were space to be made for the regulations now governing the use of such materials. The resulting concentration on the practical has been wholly at the expense of the architectural.

One of the best exemplars of this approach is the splendidly sleek and mechanistic Sainsbury Centre in Norwich, designed by Norman Foster. Foster is one of the true inheritors of the 1930s architectural preoccupation with ocean liners, limousines and aircraft. He can wax terribly enthusiastic about neoprene gaskets.

The problem lies with the fact that new materials and construction techniques coincided with an austere view of aesthetics in which delightful details were rejected as immoral. Consequently, only rarely have architects tried to use these materials in an appropriate way to celebrate details. One of those few, Pring, White & Partners, in Islington, realizing that they would have to install concrete window lintels in a scheme, went to the trouble of having the lintels specially moulded (at no extra cost). The result is a bit half-hearted, but it represents a step forward. By contrast, the last scheme of well known architects in Norwich is a riot of detail, from knapped flint to bargeboards: so much so that it is almost indigestible and inappropriate.

What is perhaps most important is that those who are in a position to commission buildings should realize that the current architectural austerity is not a matter of inevitability, arising from modern materials and methods: but a matter of choice. Perhaps the simplest approach is to let architects begin once more to take a pleasure in details and begin to celebrate necessary junctions in a delightful way.

If anything, the availability of modern manufacturing techniques presents a possibility for architects to create finer details than ever was possible when each had to be chiselled out by a mason.

Charles McKean
Architectural Correspondent

The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

Classic fairy tales are said to contain information and attitudes of importance to the developing psyche of the young. Between once upon a time and happily ever after even the most gruesome stories communicate truths honed by generations of telling, and do so on several levels. They seem to work their mysterious magic on adults too, for they are curiously satisfying compared with modern sagas of everyday or extra-terrestrial life.

The time honoured observance of major festivals has a comparable capacity to meet deep felt human needs for continuity. The connecting thread of tradition that runs from pagan rites of spring to gaudily beribboned chocolate eggs has as much to do with celebrating new life in the fields as it does with Christ's Resurrection. In the area of rolling and other Easter customs survive as folklore and custom even in places where religious practice is forbidden or forgotten in the age of the microchip.

At one time simnel cakes were made for Mother's Day. That was when the day was a celebration of the Mother Church and not a sentimental commercialised occasion for floral offerings to maternal parents. So it might be seen as no bad thing that simnel cake is now associated firmly with Easter, as are the plainness of the cake's traditional decorations, 11 small balls of marzipan to symbolize the apostles who remained faithful to Christ.

Like all fairly rich fruit cakes, simnel cake is best baked a week or more before it is to be eaten. There is no need to make the marzipan if you can buy good quality almond paste. But beware of brightly coloured cheap varieties which may contain filler in place of a proportion of the ground almonds.

Simnel cake

Makes one cake
170g (6oz) ground almonds
170g (6oz) caster sugar
1 large egg, beaten
A few drops of almond essence
110g (4oz) butter
110g (4oz) granulated or soft brown sugar
170g (6oz) plain flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground mixed spice
3 large eggs, beaten
110g (4oz) currants
110g (4oz) raisins
110g (4oz) sultanas
110g (4oz) apricot jam
1 egg, beaten to glaze

Line an 18cm (7in) deep cake tin with buttered greaseproof paper or baking parchment. Make the marzipan, combine the ground almonds and caster sugar and mix with enough beaten egg to form a soft dough. Add the almond essence and knead the mixture until it is smooth. Divide the marzipan in halves and roll out one piece to make an 18cm (7in) circle. Wrap the remainder and set it aside for decorating the cake.

To make the cake, cream the butter and granulated or soft brown sugar in a large bowl until the mixture is pale and fluffy. Sift together the flour, salt and spices and beat a spoonful into the creamed mixture. Beat in the eggs, a little at a time, adding a spoonful of the flour mixture from time to time to make sure the mixture does not curdle. Fold in the remaining flour, the fruit and orange zest. Mix them well together.

Turn half the cake mixture into the prepared tin and spread the top flat. Lay the circle of marzipan on top and cover it with the remaining cake mixture. Smooth the top and make a shallow depression in the centre. Bake the cake in a preheated oven (160°C/325°F, mark 3) for about 1 1/2 hours. Cool the cake in its tin.



When the cake is quite cold, remove it from the tin and pour off the syrup. Brush the top with apricot jam. Make 11 small balls with a little of the remaining marzipan and roll out the rest to top the cake. Place the balls on the cake and arrange the balls evenly round the edge. Brush the marzipan with beaten egg and brown the glaze by baking the cake in the oven for 10 minutes in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, mark 4).

Allow the cake to become quite cold before storing it in an airtight container.

Eggs are symbolic of Easter almost everywhere it is celebrated, and various sorts of baked egg custards or custard tarts are almost as common. The easterly wind which often blows at the time of year is actually called a custard wind in parts of northern England.

Pastel de Pascua, the Easter custard of the Balearic Islands, sounds more interesting than our own drier nursery pudding, but the Mallorcan recipe, which includes a lot of biscuit crumbs as well as cinnamon, and orange and lemon zest, produces a disappointingly stodgy pudding. Do try adding a tablespoon or two of finely grated orange and lemon zest to an egg custard, though. It really is a pleasant change from the ubiquitous caramel.

Another recipe made especially for Easter is fritters of soft ricotta cheese which turn out like small, savoury doughnuts. In Tuscany they are most often served together with a vegetable or fruit salad, such as broccoli, but they are just as nice on their own as a first course, or with drinks.

For Easter, ricotta fritters are flavoured with grapes, a brandy distilled from the skins, pips and stalks of grapes after they have been pressed for wine making. Later in the year when fresh basil is available, its wonderfully fragrant leaves make a splendid alternative flavouring.



Frittura di ricotta Pasqualina

Serves four to six
225g (8oz) ricotta cheese
85g (3oz) plain flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
1 large egg
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
1 teaspoon finely grated lemon peel
3 tablespoons grappa or rough brandy

Put all the ingredients in a bowl and mix them thoroughly together. Cover the mixture and set it aside for about an hour. Deep fry the fritters, a few at a time, at about 190°C/375°F. At this temperature, one inch cube of day old bread will brown in about 60 seconds. Drop small spoonfuls of the mixture into hot oil (peanut oil is particularly good) and fry them for about one minute, until the flour is cooked and the fritters are golden brown. Sprinkle them with salt and serve very hot.

Cream cheese confections, of which the best known is Russian *pashka*, are much in evidence at Easter. Less common is the home made Finnish cheese *hämäläinen Pääsiäisjuusto*, or Ester cheese of Hame. It is fun to make and the result, rather like solid curd cheese, is a delicious fresh fruit, and could be used in cheesecake and other recipes which call for fresh curd cheese. I used vegetarian rennet from a health food shop and different types have varying strengths, adjust the amount according to the instructions supplied.

Hämäläinen Pääsiäisjuusto
Makes about 225g (8oz)
1.5 litres (2 1/2 pints) fresh milk
1 large egg
1/2 teaspoon cheese rennet diluted in 1 tablespoon water

Warm 1.2 litres (two pints) of the milk to 80°C/175°F, and remove it from the heat. At this temperature, the rennet will be able to hold your finger in the milk for more than two or three seconds.

Beat together the remaining milk and egg, and strain this mixture into the curd. Leave in the diluted rennet and mix well. Leave the mixture to stand until cold.

Line a large sieve or colander with a clean tea cloth or muslin and drain the curd. Leave the curd to drip until the whey has drained out. Discard the whey. Line a small soufflé dish or loaf tin with foil and press the curd into it. Bake the cheese in a preheated oven (160°C/325°F, mark 3) for 10 minutes. Cool and drain the cheese. Sprinkle it with a little salt and refrigerate the cheese until needed.

Law Report
April 8 1981

Rank Film Distributors Ltd and Others v Video Information Centre (a firm) and Others
Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Roskill and Lord Bridge of Harwich.
The House of Lords upheld an objection by proposed defendants to an action for infringement of copyright in film, that an Anton Piller order, made ex parte by a judge on the film companies' application, would require them to answer questions which would put them in danger of self-incrimination in criminal proceedings for conspiracy to defraud, and so violate the privilege against self-incrimination, which was one of the basic liberties of the subject.

Lord Fraser said, if, as the House held, the objection was well founded, the usefulness of the Anton Piller type of order, developed in the Chancery Division in 1951, and which had been used for many years to prevent acts of industrial piracy, would be "much reduced if not practically destroyed".

Lord Roskill suggested that legislation might be the most effective way to protect owners of valuable property rights. Their Lordships dismissed an interlocutory appeal by Rank Film Distributors Ltd and five other large film companies from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Bridge and Lord Justice Templeman, the Master of the Rolls dissenting) (The Times, February 18, 1980) 135 W.L.R. 1017. Rank Film Distributors Ltd and five other large film companies (the appellants) sought an Anton Piller order against the defendants, who were alleged to have been involved in a conspiracy to defraud the appellants by making and distributing copies of their films without their permission. The appellants sought an Anton Piller order against the defendants, who were alleged to have been involved in a conspiracy to defraud the appellants by making and distributing copies of their films without their permission.

Mr Donald Nicholls, QC, Mr Hugh Liddle and Mr Jeremy Hargrave, for the appellants; Mr Colin Ross, QC, and Mr Daniel Sirota, for the defendants.
LORD WILBERFORCE said that the two interlocutory orders made by Mr Justice Walton were of a type which had come to be known as Anton Piller orders, so called after a notorious infringer of copyright whose case reached the Court of Appeal in 1976 (1976) 135 W.L.R. 1017. They were designed to deal with situations created by infringement of patents, trade marks and copyright, or more correctly with acts of piracy which had become a large and profitable business in recent years. They were intended to provide a quick and efficient means of recovering infringing articles and discovering the sources from which those articles had been supplied and the persons to whom they were distributed before those concerned had had time to destroy or conceal them. Their essence was surprise. Because they operated drastically and because they were made, necessarily, ex parte — before the persons affected had been heard — they were closely controlled by the court. They were granted on clear and compelling evidence, and a number of safeguards in the interest of preserving essential rights were introduced.

Self-incrimination limitation on Anton Piller orders

feature film in the English language shown in this country, many of them very valuable properties. The defendants were persons alleged to be concerned with the wholesale pirating of those films by distributing video tapes of them under false names. They themselves made from the original 35mm films, copyright in which belonged to the plaintiffs, copies of them in the present appeal were effectively Mr Lee and Ms Gomborg who owned the Video Information Centre, the sixth defendant. Mr Michael George Dawson, who owned or controlled Stylestone Ltd and between whom and the plaintiffs a business relationship appeared to exist, had a laboratory in Loughton, Essex, which was raided by the police in April, 1979. Four hundred videotapes were seized. Mr Dawson was in course of being prosecuted on charges of alleged conspiracy to defraud. It was not a party to the present appeal.

So far as Lee/Gomborg were concerned, the evidence was strong and clear that they had been involved in the distribution and engagement of pirated copy video tapes on a very large scale. It amply satisfied the requirements of the Anton Piller order for the making of an Anton Piller order. The case was one for an order to be made in such terms as to enable the plaintiffs to search the premises of the defendants for the purpose of obtaining evidence in relation to the piracy of the plaintiffs, to whose business the defendants' activities represented a major threat.

The main question was whether Mr Lee and Ms Gomborg could avail themselves of the privilege against self-incrimination in order to deprive the plaintiffs of an important part of the relief which they sought. The paradox that the worse the more criminal, their activities could be made to appear, the less effective was the privilege against self-incrimination, was what the privilege achieved.

The third of seven heads was: "The defendants Michael Anthony Lee and Susan Gomborg, by their conduct, have caused the person who shall serve this order upon them the names and addresses of all persons firms or companies known to them (i) to whom or to which the defendants or one or more of them have supplied or offered to supply illicit copy films or films used or intended to be used for making illicit copy films with the quantities and dates thereof (ii) who have supplied or offered to supply the defendants or one or more of them with illicit copy films or films used or intended to be used for making illicit copy films."

For present purposes, the orders were set aside on three heads. (1) Requiring the defendants to supply information. (2) Requiring them to allow access to premises for the purpose of looking for illicit copy films and to allow their being removed to safe custody. (3) Requiring them to disclose and produce documents.

whether the provision of the information or production of the documents might tend to incriminate the defendants. There were three heads of criminal liability. (1) Section 21 of the Copyright Act, 1956, created criminal offences under a number of headings, some of which would potentially apply to the defendants. For a first offence there was a maximum fine of £50. (2) Conspiracy to commit a crime. (3) Conspiracy to defraud. By virtue of the Criminal Law Act, 1977, no greater punishment could be imposed for such a conspiracy than for the offence of conspiracy. The House of Lords directed that an offence at common law left unaffected by the 1977 Act.

A substantial argument could be raised that (1) and (2) should not be taken account of in connection with a claim for privilege. The criminal offences created by section 21 covered almost precisely the same ground as the bases for civil liability under the 1956 Act. It was, therefore, not surprising to hold that in civil proceedings for infringement based on specified acts the defendants could

claim privilege against discovery on the ground that those acts were necessary to establish a defence to a criminal charge. In practice, section 21 was rarely invoked, and potential liability under it might be avoided by a defendant's substantial. The same argument would apply to conspiracy to breach it.

It was only too clear (and his Lordship deliberately used the language of reluctance) that supply of the information and production of the documents sought would tend to expose the defendants to a charge of conspiracy to defraud. It was also clear that the defendants were certain to be involved in printing the master tapes, copying from the master tapes, and distributing the illicit copies. A charge of conspiracy to defraud was, therefore, a possibility. In addition to other charges, there was an appropriate and exact description of what was being sought. So, the House held, the privilege against self-incrimination was the charge on which Mr Dawson was to stand trial. It could not be said that charges under that head would be nothing to do with the defence to a criminal charge. An essential ingredient in them was dishonesty, which might exist in cases brought by the plaintiffs. The House held that the privilege against self-incrimination was not a basic liberty of the subject to be denied. It was a privilege which could be waived. It was a privilege which could be waived. It was a privilege which could be waived.

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THE ARTS

Nationwide BBC 1

Michael Ratcliffe

A poor week for boozers, women and members of parliament: for a boozing woman MP indeed a disaster. Dr Marsha Morgan told us that women get drunk more easily than men and should always drink less, preferably not at all. Lord Lubbock attacked the "Niagara of drink" available at Westminster as long as the Commons and Lords are in session, and said how awful it all was. The law of libel prevented his naming names, of course, and Nationwide flashed up a photograph of Churchill giving a squiffy V-sign and Gaiskell smiling and saying, "show what you thought, but the tea-totalling zeal in Lubbock's eyes remained bright. On Monday Sir Horace Cutler won a prize, and on Tuesday he discounted the probability of doing so a month and told us how smashing the Tories had been over the last four years at County Hall.

The true purpose of Nationwide is to assure us that, whatever uncontrollable atrocities may have occurred in the early evening news, real life in Britain goes on, and may be chopped into an infinite variety of inequally shaped pieces for easy digestion. Longer items, like that on the surgical reshaping of a boy's face at the Eastman Dental Clinic, are sometimes impressive, and sometimes, as on the activities of the Animal Liberation Front, simply not ready for publication. This week is supposed to be different. Nationwide has been calling attention to itself on the cover and four inside pages of Radio Times with glowing commendation from all areas of the community as to its value and purpose. It is offering a special series of reports in which the national presenters, responding to invitations from what Sue Lawley described as "interesting communities", descend, briefly and politely, into the sticks.

She herself last night offered a decent item on the disabled residents at the Papworth Settlement. Earlier Hugh Scully went to Gloucester and Frank Bough to Rochdale. But special tonight Sally Hardcastle has a chance to show if these reports are different in any way from the usual in the first of three items on Broadmoor—fortunate timing in view of the widespread public misunderstanding that has recently come to light, and following Southern's sharp and courageous programme on the poems of the prisoner John Neish (shown locally, but not networked last Friday). I hope she does better than Scully and Bough, the first of whom, an excellent student of the art, returned mournfully from his bucolic assignment bearing a sheaf of truncated consumer complaints about bus shelters and double glazing and perhaps the most boring story of the year so far: should the city of Gloucester have 45, 55 or 70 taxicabs available for public hire? The report from Rochdale was even scappier.

Comsat Angels Sundown

Fire Engines Embassy

Richard Williams

Down from Scorialand on a tide of mystery and excitement, the Fire Engines played on Tuesday night to an audience consisting mainly of talent-spotting record company executives. At a similar engagement in London the previous night, 200 people (mainly record company executives) had been turned away. As the Fire Engines finished their four-song, 12-minute set, the only possible reaction was relief: only because we a record company executive in 1981?

The Fire Engines—two guitars, bass and drums—seem motivated solely by a desire to appear original. One way of doing that is to play songs so harsh and unpleasant that observers are simply intimidated into believing that something new is going on. It is easy to suspect, however, that these musicians spend more time selecting their repertoire than moulding their tarish guitar patterns, sub-lethargic rhythms and obnoxious vocals into worthwhile music. The record business can scarcely afford to ignore such fierce commitment, such devoted artistry; nor will it.

Across Soho, in dingier but more appropriate surroundings, Sheffield's dark-toned Angels (no pseudo-Africanisms, mind you), flowing Kevin Bacon's bass guitar to prompt and control the flow, Andy Peake's discreet keyboard colour, Fellowes' untidy group's own vocal achievement: without attempting anything outlandish, a strong sense of character is established. This begins with the songs, which, at their best, "Waiting for a Miracle", "Dark Parade" ("Real Story", Independence Day") present eminently memorable melodic hooks within arrangements which take account of music and texture shading. The mood is ominous and not a little sardonic, but with a sense of hope.

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Bartók centenary triple bill at the London Coliseum

A confusion of misconceived oriental images

Both of Bartók's ballets are difficult to stage, but Fleming Flindt's treatment of *The Miraculous Mandarin* has proved one of the most enduring of shows the dancers as their best. The sure grasp of style contrasts with the mish-mash which has been made of *The Wooden Prince*, the only completely new production in the Coliseum's joint ENO/Festival triple bill.

The ballet has never been given before by any English company, and one easily understands why. The score is long, the plot short. The music does not rise to the originality, intensity or sustained imagination of Bartók's other two stage works. The whole concept is rooted in a period when, except for Diaghilev's innovations, ballet was in a bad way. Granted all that, it still should be possible to make more of it than Geoffrey Cauley and Philip Prowse have done.

They seize on the slight orientalism in the music, transfer them half round the world from the near to the far east, and adopt a manner jumbling devices from Chinese and Japanese theatre, but so half-heartedly that black-dressed *kuroko* figures, conventionally accepted as invisible one moment, are kicking away in the chorus line the next minute.

Visually, Prowse's costumes, although the extent of the eastern debt varies from slight hints, a fan or a floating sleeve to the dress with banners fixed all over its back and the brightly coloured facial quarterings worn by Patricia Ruane as a consequently mostly static figure.

Choreographically, Cauley's attempt at a similar mixture is miserably half-hearted. Matz Skoog as the real prince has a few karate kicks to enliven his solos, but there is no point in having a trampoline for his attempts to reach the princess unless he jumps a lot higher. And, since taking off his fine coat is an important stage in his courtship, to show him first without it seems crazy.

Jane Scott, a late replacement for the injured Lucia Truglia, does what can be done with the princess's banal solo and proves delightfully lively in her duet with Frederic Jahner as the wooden substitute which the prince tries to use as bait in his courtship. But, with Janos Furst conducting the ENO Orchestra, perhaps the best thing is to follow Balanchine's joking suggestion: close your eyes and hear a good concert.

To succeed with Bartók's stage works, you must take their dramatic content more seriously, as the other works in the programme showed. Ben Van Cauwenbergh and Flindt's *Miraculous Mandarin* both demonstrate how well a half-abstract approach, free of place or period, can illuminate the subject.

Flindt's choreography reveals the characters in strenuous movement, not mime. Ben Van Cauwenbergh catches very well the terrifying determination of the mandarin in his impassive fights with the thugs and his desperate pursuit of the girl. He also rises splendidly to the sad satisfaction of the ending when, stripped of his mask, he is able to die after finding love.

Caroline Humpston makes much of the music's astonishing honesty which, surprisingly but convincingly, Flindt highlights as the clue to the girl's character. Her beautifully controlled line brings out the full point of the slow, half-crouching solos, and her equanimity when handled like a commodity by the thugs is impressive. The minor roles are well played, especially by Kevin Richmond as the most energetic thug and Trevor Wood as the rouse.

Preben Hornung's unfussy costumes and stark setting, relieved by one blaze of red, prove as efficient, 14 years after the original Copenhagen production. It all works because it concentrates on the essence of the ballet. This *Miraculous Mandarin* should be an asset to Festival Ballet beyond the present commemorative occasion.



Caroline Humpston and Ben Van Cauwenbergh in *The Miraculous Mandarin*

John Percival

'In performing symbolist works one ought surely to present the symbols ...'

For the operatic part of the evening, English National Opera have revived Glen Byam Shaw's production of *Duke Bluebeard's Castle* rather than create something new. It is an understandable economy, since Bartók's one-act is not likely to be in the repertoire often, there being no obvious companion piece. However, the nine-year-old production, with its Ralph Koltai designs of mirrors and heptagonal abstraction, begins to look something of a period piece, and it also fits the opera less than comfortably.

In performing symbolist works such as this one ought surely to present the symbols and not the symbolism. Here, in an opera whose sole action is the unlocking of seven doors, we have no keys and no doorways. Instead, John Tomlinson as Bluebeard has to reach into his head for nothing (does this rather well) and Elizabeth Connell as Judith has to make salutations to the empty air when she wants the slide show to change.

Fortunately Mr Tomlinson offers a profound and moving portrait of Bluebeard to draw attention away from these feeble attempts. Whether one thinks of him as bound by fate or going perpetually through the same circular myth, he is always aware that change is impossible, the thing must be done. When Judith opens the first door, for example, he almost stammers his question, fearful of the answer she will give, but fearful more that he will hear something different, that the inexorable cycle will be broken. He acts with deep knowledge and resignation, and he sings with the same great poise, although not without much strength, flexibility and beauty in the line, especially when, with satisfaction at the arrival of the necessary ending, he rises from declamation to song in vesting Judith with her insignia as his queen of the night.

Miss Connell is too girlish for too much of the opera, though this is partly the fault of the conductor, Janos Furst, who makes her music buoyant and very fast. In the later stages she begins to show that, though naive, she is as aware as Bluebeard of the inevitability of what is going on, and Mr Furst too makes the close triumphant in hopelessness.

Paul Griffiths

'Figaro' revival at Glyndebourne

The 1981 Glyndebourne Festival with tickets costing from £13 to £26.50, opens on May 27 with a revival of Peter Hall's production of *Le nozze di Figaro*, with the conducting shared by Eliahu Inbal and Gustav Kuhn. There will be two casts, with Alberto Rinaldi and Knut Skram as Figaro, Norma Burrows and Maria Fausta Gellmanini as Susanna, Isobel Buchanan and Felicity Lott as the Countess, Richard Stilwell and Alan Titus as the Count, and Faith Esham and Colette Alliot-Lugaz as Cherubino.

A new production by John Cox of *Il barbiere di Siviglia* opens on May 30, with Sylvain Cambreling and Elgar Howarth conducting. In the cast are John Rawnsley as Figaro, Max René Cosetti as the Count, Claudio Desderi as Bartolo and Maria Ewing and Zehava Gal sharing the role of Rosina.

Peter Hall's new production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* starts on June 21, with Ileana Cotrubas, James Bowman, Ryland Davies, Dale Duesing, Cynthia Buchanan, Felicity Lott and Lieve Visser. *The Dream* will be conducted by Bernard Haitink, as will the revival of *Fidelio* which opens on July 16, with Josephine Barstow, Anton de Ridder, Malcolm Donnelly and Curt Appelgren.

Simon Rattle will conduct the revival of *Ariadne auf Naxos* opening on July 8, with a cast including Maria Ewing, Gianna Rolandi, Helena Döse and Dennis Bailey.

Delius's *Femmine* and Gerda will have its American premiere as part of this year's season by the Opera Theatre of St Louis.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

London debuts

Akira Miyoshi's Sonata echoes the luxuriant textures of Ravel's *Gaspard de la Nuit*, of Szynmanowski's *Masques*, of late Scriabin, but with the strongly differentiated personalities removed, so that nothing remains except the teasing notes and the virtuosity needed to deliver them. Ukko Endo's performance was in fact extremely impressive, absolutely clear, and with a luminous, shining tone; it boded well for the rest of the evening.

Sure enough, a large Chopin mazurka group was so full of good things that merely to mention the exquisitely wayward grace of op 6 no 1, the acute expression of sadness in op 17 no 4, the springing rhythms of op 24 no 3, the clear perception of stylistic subtleties in Miss Endo's account of op 59 no 3 is to render a very incomplete account. And a nocturne, the early "Lento con gran espressione", had an enchanting verbal freshness.

Liszt's Sonata was less satisfactory, although the sudden blaze of sunlight when, after a muffled opening, the music leaps into action with double octaves, was finely realized. Miss Endo's was, in fact, a courageous performance, though sometimes dangerously fast. This led to minor accidents, yet one never felt that the work's difficult questions were being evaded. Indeed, its expressive depths were repeatedly sounded, especially in the Andante sostenuto.

Raquel Bolderini started with a pair of well-contrasted Soler sonatas. These were done with a remarkable animation, each melodic shape, harmonic nuance and rhythmic pattern being sharply responded to. Beethoven's Sonata op 111 received a full-scale performance, also, confirming that Miss Bolderini's technique has great scope, but it was a pity she played only Book 2 of *Out of Doors*. "Night music" is an extraordinarily imaginative feat of piano writing and Miss Bolderini managed to evoke quite vividly the animal and insect noises which fascinated Bartok so much. The suite's finale, "The chase" with its grim estimates and obsessive dissonances, suggests a nightmare rather than night music, and here a suitably claustrophobic impression was made.

After this Villa-Lobos's *Im-*

Elijah Festival Hall

Hilary Finch

It was the drama in the story of Elijah that most passionately concerned Mendelssohn in his long discussions with an over-earnest librettist; and there was certainly no lack of enthusiastically projected dramatic incident in Tuesday's performance of his oratorio in which Brian Wright conducted the Goldsmiths' Choral Union and the Philharmonic Orchestra.

But it had the overall effect of a fuzzy stage production: too often musical and verbal details were over-insistently urged at the expense of the dramatic energy and shape of the larger unit and of the whole.

Thomas Allen withdrew at the last minute from his role as Elijah and was replaced by Michael Rippon who sang with an ease and immediacy that obviously came from knowing

Berlin Chamber Orchestra Queen Elizabeth Hall

Frank Dobbins

Although the divided city of Berlin may have lost some of its pre-war orchestral variety and splendour, the eastern sector can be justly proud of this finely balanced and well-disciplined chamber ensemble. Since Heinz Schunk took over from the late Helmut Koch as its *Konzertmeister* in 1975, the orchestra has acquired a considerable international reputation through its tours, broadcasts and recordings.

While devoting considerable attention to baroque music, it has not pursued the true path of authenticity to the same extent as its younger western counterparts, cherishing instead the warmth of modern instruments and bowing techniques. Nevertheless, its refined articulation and well-balanced cohesion ensures a stylish but unimpaired performance of the 18th Century repertoire.

The orchestra's South Bank concert began with J. C. Bach's

Arts agenda

Transatlantic traffic

The vogue for taking a bunch of old songs and turning them into a musical owes much to the demand for small-scale, low-budget productions; Britain's success in exporting compilation shows suggests other countries also like economical packages of nostalgia. It is harder to explain why Britain can produce shows based on old American songs and then succeed in selling them to America. *Side by Side* by *Sondheim* was a notable example.

The latest to be scheduled for transatlantic production is *Tom Foolery*, the West End revue based on the satirical songs of the American comic Tom Lehrer. It will be presented at the Kreeger Theatre in Washington this autumn, with another production planned for Los Angeles. Cameron Mackintosh, the producer, says the show is more popular abroad than in Britain: productions are running or planned in Australia, South Africa, Hongkong, Ireland, Denmark, Israel and Canada. "Plagiarism does pay dividends", he says.

But why British effort opens, a little belatedly, in the United States this week? *Cowardy Custard*, compiled from songs and sketches of Noel Coward, was launched in 1972 but has only now been taken up by the Goodspeed Opera House in Connecticut, a theatre which specializes in musicals and often transfers shows to Broadway. Ned Sherrin is directing, with Millicent Martin and Jeremy Brett leading the cast. The show has been renamed *Noel*, perhaps to aid American comprehension, but it now sounds like something more suited to Christmas.

A British production is at last being planned for Ligeti's comic opera *Le Grand macabre*, parts of which were performed in a concert version at the Festival Hall last night. After several years of discussion, English National Opera has decided to stage it in December next year.

The producer will be Elijah Moshinsky, whose new *Macbeth* is currently on show. Covent Garden will be his first ENO production, and he has also been booked for *Mastering* there in 1984. He is not forsaking Covent Garden, but his immediate task is a BBC Shakespeare production, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Helen Mirren as Titania.

A concert at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, on April 25 celebrates the discovery of the planet Uranus and the music of an almost forgotten composer, Sir William Herschel, who discovered the seventh planet in 1781, started life as a Haverley handman; in England he developed as an organist and composer before his interest in harmony led him to mathematics and then to astronomy.

Peter Wishart will conduct the Herschel Chamber Orchestra, with Sarah Francis as soloist, in Herschel's Oboe Concerto. The programme also

the part so well that he scarcely needed to look at his score. But he lacked both the interpretative authority and the consistent vocal support to avoid falling into mock heroics.

Maryon Hill was forceful if at times laboured Chodial, and even fiercer, more unrelentingly insistent was Arteral Gunson, an unusually forthright Angel; her increasingly powerful and dramatic mezzo was better suited to the role of the Queen in the second half.

Linda Esther Gray, particularly moving as the widow (her "my son reviveth" was radiant enough for the last trumpet) was the only soloist fully to enter into the musical as well as the verbal drama.

The orchestra, although sometimes sluggish in hisatives, urged along by hisives, sustained impetus and permitted changes in the orchestration and a chorus with the staying power, explanation to compensate for the pianissimos and generally only sense of line.

John Wilbraham

While John Wilbraham did not quite match the string players, he nevertheless displayed brilliant virtuosic skill in a concerto by Torelli, a hybrid five-movement arrangement with more variety in texture, modulation and harmony than the usual Bolognese trumpet music.

A second concerto by the Venerable Albion ultimately caused him some lip problems.

In Tartin's rather predictable Concerto in D Minor, the leader/director Heinz Schunk revealed a sweet-toned lyricism which found an even more appropriate communal expression in Dvorak's String Serenade, providing a richly satisfying conclusion to the concert.

E flat symphony Opus 9 No 2, the apply Tectonic concession to the excitement of its Mannheim crescendos and playing up the sentimentality of its muted andante. If the "London" Bach owed much to his Alliance experience, these German musicians clearly delight in the Italian Baroque masters who provided most of their programme.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

TIME FOR STRONG NERVES

Most strikes seek to make their effect on two ways: upon the pocket and upon the nerves. In the tedious middle stretches of a major dispute, while the strain on the pocket is or is not beginning to make itself felt, the play on the nerves holds the centre of attention, and can sway the outcome. That is the stage that the Civil Service dispute has reached, after just over four weeks. The subtlety of this phase is especially great in a dispute where the direct effects of the action are more or less invisible to the public, except through the claims and counter-claims made by both sides. It is a time for steady nerves.

In making much of the effects of their action on defence establishments in the last few days, the unions may have made the kind of impatient error that is temptingly easy at this stage. It is unlikely that their action at military communications centres and naval yards has posed any real threat to allied defences, but that is no thanks to them. The reporting of comments reminiscent of parody like "We accept that this is putting the deterrent at risk, but this is a matter for the Government" (Mr William Wright, Institution of Professional Civil Servants) can scarcely create public sympathy, and must make the many civil servants who are uncertain about the strike wonder whether their leaders have lost all sense of proportion.

The Government, evidently

decided at the outset to let the dispute develop quietly for the time being. Little use has yet been made of the legitimate weapon of suspensions. But there have been recent hints of impatience among some ministers to be visibly taking an initiative in some way. Yesterday's united call for stronger Government action from the Confederation of British Industry and the Chamber of Commerce indicates a growing irritation at the spectacle of strike action by a group expected to have a sense of public responsibility, which already enjoys exceptional privileges in respect of job security and index-linked pension rights. Public resentment is widespread and justified, and it is likely to increase. But it remains vital that the Government should not take any initiative which threatens its economic strategy or rebuffs the support it has among the public, and among civil servants themselves.

The point that cannot be retreated from is the commitment to maintain the cash limits. A 7 per cent offer to a group whose pay has risen 50 per cent in two years is neither hardship nor injustice at a time of economic crisis. Nor is the emergency going to end quickly: Sir Geoffrey Howe has already indicated that 6 per cent cash limits will apply next year too. Any new proposals must take these imperatives into account. It will be a betrayal of many sacrifices if some form of words

is found which, in the end, yields more money.

The only ground for negotiation is on the procedures for settling civil service pay, and it is dangerous ground. It is under the former pay research system that the abandonment of the level of guerrilla warfare. Some form of independent assessment may be inevitable. But the old concept of comparability has been shown to be against the public interest. It has tended to hasten inflation and increase unfairness between the public and the private sector, especially when no account has been taken of time lags which have produced larger increases for civil servants when other workers are settling for lower rates. Most importantly, the old system of comparability was distorted by failing to weigh properly the immeasurable value of job security and index-linked pensions.

Market forces, as reflected by the number and quality of recruits, should have a greater influence in future. The only scope for negotiation, as we have argued, is an arrangement under which the pay and privileges of civil servants are protected in return for a guarantee not to strike. It is the unions who should take the initiative here, not the Government. It has been abused and damaged enough, and however uncomfortable the prospects, would be imprudent to start the overtures.

WELCOME COMPETITION IN BANKING

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is one of the great institutions of British commercial and colonial history. In its present manifestation it is one of the great banking empires of the modern commercial world. Based in Hongkong, it is in most senses still a very British enterprise. Its aid for the Royal Bank of Scotland, however, poses potentially difficult questions for the British authorities.

It has intervened in order to get the agreed merger between the Royal Bank and another major British overseas banking group, Standard Chartered Bank, has proposed a price which suggests strongly that in the interests of existing Royal Bank shareholders the bid should be accepted. The attraction for the Hongkong Shanghai (as for standard Chartered) is that it is the bank into the highly lucrative British domestic banking business, at present dominated by the big four clearing banks.

The question inevitably arises whether or not this bid should be referred to the Monopolies Commission. In the case of the standard Chartered deal, a decision about referring had not been taken and the issue was

under study by the Office of Fair Trading. The Bank of England, however, had made it clear that for its part it saw no objection to the deal. With the Hongkong Shanghai bid, on the contrary, the clear impression is that the Bank of England has severe reservations and would on balance be in favour of a reference.

The Office of Fair Trading, the Department of Trade, the Bank of England and in the end Mr Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, can either take a narrow or a broad view of the issues involved. If they take a narrow view, looking simply at the merits of the potential take-over of the Royal Bank by the Hongkong Shanghai, there can be no grounds for making a reference.

The point is made that the Hongkong Shanghai is not a British-based bank. But it will become the authorities responsible for an international banking centre like London to make such a point. All major British banks have been engaged for years in the process of expansion into other banking systems. The British clearing banks which have been at the front of this trend can now hardly object to an outside bank carrying the

counter-attack in their direction. The arrival of the Hongkong and Shanghai bank on the British domestic banking scene can only increase rather than decrease competition and service to the customer. In this narrow context, therefore, there is no real ground for a reference.

It is, however, possible to advance the argument that the time is ripe for a more general look at the structure of British banking, as we go into the rapidly changing context of the 1980s. During the 1950s and 1970s there took place what some have come to regard as an excessive concentration of the main domestic banking business in the United Kingdom, until it was effectively dominated by the present big four banks. With the growth of international banking and the abolition of exchange controls, the climate of the 1980s is going to be very different. If, in the context of the Hongkong Shanghai bid for the Royal Bank, it was possible to devise terms of reference which allowed the Monopolies Commission to consider and report on the wider issues of concentration in the British banking scene, there might be some purpose in a reference. Otherwise there is none.

PUBLIC CONFIDENCE AND POLICE ASSAULT

A vast majority of complaints against the police are treated with scrupulous care; and citizens have reason to be grateful to policemen in an age of increasing violence. But there is a minority of complaints against the police which gives cause for concern, and it is in complaints against the police themselves that are used of violence. The report, yet unpublished, of the Home Office Research Unit, makes out sufficient case that investigations of allegations by members of the public that they have been assaulted by the police are too frequently handled without the degree of commitment that the public has a right to expect and, some cases, are dealt with gingerly, and deliberately so, is now no longer enough for the police merely to assert, as David McNea did yesterday, that all such complaints are meticulously investigated.

The Research Unit supports, generally, the proposal of the annual review of the Police Complaints Board, that there should be a specialist investigating team to look into complaints against the police which result in serious injury, and that this team should be answerable to a non-police superior, a senior lawyer for preference. Last month a Home Office working party rejected the proposal for a separate unit and

suggested that the supervisory role should be played by the Director of Public Prosecutions, wearing a new hat, or by the Chairman of the Police Complaints Board. The curious aspect of the working party which opposed the recommendation was that its chairman, Lord Plowden, was also the chairman of the Police Complaints Board which had put it forward. The majority of the committee was made up of representatives of police organizations. It is not surprising that its conclusion was received with some embarrassment by the Home Office.

The police claimed that it would be administratively difficult to set up a separate system merely to deal with serious complaints, that it would be costly, and that it would not be easy to recruit policemen of sufficient calibre to serve on the investigating team, because most of them would find it distasteful to perform such work. That last objection seems not to have applied in the case of the Metropolitan Police, which has had no difficulty in recruiting officers for its complaints branch (although their enthusiasm for the chase, previously well-regarded, has now, of course, been put in doubt).

The first two objections, however, may have force, though less than the police believe. But if it is not considered desirable to set

up a completely new scheme (and a decision on that should not treat the working party's conclusion with too much respect), there is still a great deal that can be done to strengthen the procedures within the Police Complaints Board itself.

It is implicit in the Research Unit's report that the part-time members of the board, by failing to spot some of the shortcomings in the police investigation, have not exhibited the sharpness of mind that their positions as independent watchdogs on behalf of the public require. For that matter, the staff of the Director of Public Prosecutions have not covered themselves with glory. Most, if not all, of the complaints in question must have come before his department, and the result does not show great efficiency on the part of those whose task it was to sift the evidence.

What is required now is for the Police Complaints Board to be given sufficient experienced staff to be able to look carefully at every file in which an allegation of serious assault is made, and, if necessary, to send it back to the Chief Constable or Metropolitan Police Commissioner with a note of reservation about the standard of investigation. It would still leave the investigation of complaints in police hands, as it should be, but would yield greater independent scrutiny.

scal policy and output

Professor P. T. Bauer, FBA, in *Professor Amartya Sen writes* (p. 7) that there is "immediate need for a less deflationary policy to change the enormous restriction pressure now exerted through monetary and fiscal policy on real output and employment".

It does not help his argument (in course of which he refers to the importance of emigration) to cite the same issue of *The Times* which reports that retail sales in February were higher than in any month of 1980, at near record levels. Last week's issue (April 4) reported that during 1980 personal income tax rose by 18 per cent, but allowing for inflation personal income rose by only 2 per cent, hardly evidence of a deflationary policy. Moreover, it is also true that the underlying real output prices have reverted to 1974 levels.

Jay economists would dispute a current policy is unnecessarily deflationary. The effects and implications of financial policy cannot

be assessed simply on the basis of statistics of aggregate output and recorded unemployment. It is necessary to look more closely at what is happening in the real economy. The implications of the rigidities which exist, particularly in the labour and housing markets.

In February and March, 1947, coal supplies ran out, and output and employment collapsed. Would this have justified financial expansion? Memory of that crisis is at least as illuminating as Professor Sen's reference to Napoleon's Russian campaign of 1812.

Yours faithfully,
P. T. BAUER,
London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.
April 7.

most famous son, Sir Francis Chantrey.

I am writing as a member of a family that had close connections with Chantrey (among other things his father was our estate carpenter and he was educated in the village school which was financed by the family).

In Mr Alan Bowness's letter to *The Times* (April 2) it was understood that there are so many pictures bought by the money left by the sculptor, that they cannot all be seen.

Would it not be a nice gesture for the trustees of the bequest to lend, on permanent loan, a certain number of pictures to the Mappin art gallery in Sheffield (which is an excellent modern well-run gallery) for the benefit of the citizens of Sheffield? I am sure it would have pleased him enormously that Sheffield benefit from his bequest in this bi-centenary year.

I remain, Sir,
Yours sincerely,
HILARY BAGSHAW,
Oakes-in-Norton,
Sheffield.

Justice and racial harmony

From Miss Rosalind King

Sir, I was alarmed to see that cases against those charged in connection with the Bristol riots had been dropped "in the interest of racial harmony".

If all races are to be accepted within a society, then, must all be seen to be treated equally by that society and for the same responsibilities to a society.

To drop this case not only the cause of racial harmony but that of British justice, a wrong precedent in itself, but also is to inflame rather than quell all prejudice.

Yours faithfully,
ROSALIND KING,
38 Marlings Park Avenue,
Chislehurst,
Kent,
April 6.

From Mr Indra Kulatilake

Sir, Allow me your columns congratulate the Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset, Mr Brian Weigh, who advised the Director of Public Prosecutions not to order a retrial of the remaining four defendants in the Bristol riot trial in the interest of good race relations.

If Sir David McEneaney proved with similar foresight in the Southall riot cases the relations between the Southall community and a police might not be what they are today.

The decision of the Attorney General, a multi-racial society demonstrated by anyone a judiciary, will undoubtedly strengthen the conviction of us the silent majority of voluntary workers in the cause of better race relations that it is not too late.

Yours faithfully,
INDRA KULATILAKE, Chairperson,
Southall Rights,
54 High Street,
Southall,
Middlesex,
April 7.

Human rights in Romania

From Mr Horia Gheorgescu and Mr Ion Ratiu

Sir, The forthcoming visit to Britain (April 13-16) of the Romanian Prime Minister, Mr Ilie Verde, compels us to write about the continued violation of the human rights clauses of the 1947 treaty with Romania and the Helsinki Accords, as well as other international agreements. Britain is signatory of the first two.

Under the circumstances we very much hope that his visit will be taken up by Mr Verdet by British ministers members of Parliament, any politician or persons connected with the visit or concerned with human rights. The most flagrant examples of persecution of political, religious and other dissidents are quoted in recent Amnesty International reports; they contain cases of torture, beatings, unlawful arrest, abuses of psychiatric treatment, etc.

The official trade unions, simple conveyor belt of Communist Party orders, are best useless, as in Poland. The Free Trade Union of Romania (the *Libertate*), founded in 1979 in a desperate attempt to improve conditions, was brutally suppressed.

We believe that the Romanian people want closer economic and cultural ties with Britain. But British, in her own enlightened interest, should insist on some improvement of working conditions in Romania—at least in joint enterprises—such as the reduction of the long working week, the elimination of overtime work, better safety measures and an increase in real wages.

As a token of concern for the people of Romania, we suggest that every opportunity be taken to impress upon Mr Verdet (who is also President Ceausescu's trusted adviser) the need for a relaxation of the brutal policy of repression of dissidents and for the free movement of persons and ideas in and out of Romania.

Yours faithfully,
HORIA GHEORGESCU,
HORIA RATIU,
British-Romanian Association,
5-6 Regent Street, W1,
April 1.

Sinai manuscripts

From Professor A. A. M. Bryer

Sir, Dr J. K. Elliott's plea in *The Times* today (April 4) that the manuscripts discovered in the monastery of St Catherine on Mount Sinai in 1975 be made available to scholars is fully supported by the British National Committee of the Association Internationale des Etudes Byzantines (AIEB), which since March, 1979, has reiterated its "strong and wide concern that the Greek authorities provide information, publish check lists, and allow access to the material as soon as possible".

We understand that our concern is shared by the two Greek scholars who first examined the finds and reported on their outstanding importance.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY BRYER,
(Secretary, AIEB, British National Committee),
Centre for Byzantine Studies,
University of Birmingham,
April 4.

Art at a price

From Mr Coleman Morrison

Sir, Although the Dali painting is the most expensive work by a living artist sold at auction (for £360,000) a work by Jasper Johns was purchased by the Whitney Museum in New York in September 1980 for \$1m (£450,000) a record purchase price for a work by a living artist. The painting was bought from Mr and Mrs Burton Tremaine who originally purchased it in the early 1950s from a New York gallery for \$900, plus \$15 delivery charge.

Sincerely,
COLEMAN MORRISON,
48 Cadogan Place, SW1,
April 1.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Contribution of national service

From Dr Alec Dickson

Sir, Sir Hugh Fraser's article (April 8) on "The acceptable new face of national service" is as courageous as it is creative.

As a member of a working party that is considering how some such approach as Sir Hugh advocates might actually be implemented, may I make several points?

(a) Over the last twenty years there has been a steady swing of the pendulum in the way in which service is viewed from when it was the bright-eyed, highly-calibrated, sixth-form-leaver, probably Victor Ludorum and/or school captain, and with an Oxbridge place already secured, who leapt at opportunities of service, particularly those offered abroad.

But today a Court can sentence you to so many hours of community service as an alternative to imprisonment; if already in a Borstal, you may be released for the last month or so of your sentence to become a Community Service Volunteer; if you are in the bottom stream of a comprehensive school there is the possibility that service in the local neighbourhood may be time-tabled in your syllabus (but the more gifted, staying on for GCE and with university aspirations, will probably be exempted). You are an unemployed school-leaver and considered inadequate even for a MSC-funded Work Experience on Employers' Premises scheme, then you might find yourself channelled to a Spingarn programme concerned to help those in need.

In short, service is no longer the prerogative of young mandarins—but the last resort of coolies. Thus the Two Nations division of which Disraeli wrote over a century ago is being reinforced.

(b) The major contribution that the Defence Forces could make may not lie in their accepting cohorts of unemployed school-leavers into the ranks for a brief period—but in releasing experienced NCOs (and/or young officers) in a training capacity for attachment to volunteer agencies.

Defence forces have the knack of imparting practical skills much more effectively than civil educational institutions. How else have we succeeded in training Gurkhas in English, the use of complex electronic equipment and in medical care?

(c) Freedom of choice is essential to develop real commitment. A gigantic range of social needs are there to be met—from reclaiming derelict canals to caring for the frail and elderly, or devising recreational activities for younger children out of school, at the weekends and in the holidays.

(d) Vice-Chancellors and Admission Tutors to institutions of higher education—many of them already believing that a break on leaving school is in every way desirable, provided it is used to the benefit of those in need—should be encouraged to be more forthright and give a preferential weighting to those who have contributed their energies, intellectual and physical, to the problems of our society.

Many fear the additional cost, but Treasury figures indicate that the price of keeping an unemployed man is now in excess of £7,000 per annum. Can we afford to keep young people in compulsory idleness any longer?

I am, Sir,
ALEX DICKSON,
19 Eberheim Road, W4,
April 8.

Appointment of bishops

From the Chaplain of Mansfield College

Sir, Two things struck me like a bolt in your leader of April 4 on "The Appointment of Bishops". The first was the slur (perhaps unintended, but none the better for that) on Bishop Habgood when you suggest that Dr Leonard is a good appointment because he has the "intellectual, moral and doctrinal force of a kind the Church stands in some need of". As if the other Bishop does not?

The second point you imply is that Mrs Thatcher has better judgement than the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Queen on the state of the faith in these islands, since they supported the losing candidate. Right. Let her loose on the Church as on the economy. There are too many employed vicars anyway.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES BROCK,
Mansfield College,
Oxford,
April 4.

right names were submitted in the first place.

It is clear that the present method of making Crown appointments was devised to safeguard the Prime Minister from being simply a rubber stamp to what must in the nature of the case be the Church's ultimate responsibility. But it can also be seen to demonstrate two other principles. (1) The Biblical truth that church committees have no monopoly of the guidance of the Holy Spirit. (2) The Prime Minister, in virtue of the office, has the means of sounding out a sizeable amount of lay opinion (and clerical, for that matter) which might not otherwise be heard. Proper consideration by the Church's own councils, despite synodical government.

It would be a pity if the present system resulted in mass lobbying. But then anyone who has reached the position of Prime Minister should be able to judge such pressure for what it is worth.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY N. SEAW,
Wycliffe Hall,
Oxford,
April 6.

From the Reverend J. E. Cummins

Sir, Mrs Thatcher has acquired a reputation for bringing the nation to its knees.

Such distinction—surely the envy of all Church leaders—would qualify her to recommend her personal choice of bishop to her Majesty.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES CUMMINS,
Skyberry,
Knights,
Powys.

MIND and its work

From Mr Tony Smythe

Sir, I am sorry that Ronald Butt (March '86) felt compelled in the emotional climate generated by the PTE Exchange to launch his crusade against the unrelenting attacks on MIND and myself.

In 1975 MIND organized a workshop for mental health professionals at their request on the psychological problems of various sexual minorities and some who have committed homosexual, a lesbian, a transsexual and a paedophile gave their own accounts of their experiences and concerns. A short report appeared in *Mind* which goes to the heart of the subject.

The workshop was not solely nor predominantly concerned with paedophilia.

During the same period I was a trustee of the Albany Trust, which promotes counselling services for people with psychological problems. Following the workshop, the trust was asked to comment by PTE on a draft manifesto. The advice given was that while the paedophile experience needed to be better understood, demands to remove all legal protection for children at risk from sexual exploitation by adults were entirely unacceptable.

In 1977, together with many other concerned people and the press, I attended a public meeting organized

by PTE at Conway Hall primarily because the National Front and others had made attempts to stop it taking place which included the use of physical violence.

The above description represents the totality of MIND's connections with PTE. However, our research services receive a fair number of inquiries from people who link their mental health problems with their sexual inclinations. We advise and represent people who have emotional or practical difficulties and some who have committed serious offences. Help does not imply approval. We are trying to deal with these very real issues in a responsible and professional way and we shall not be helped by the innuendoes and accusations contained in Ronald Butt's article.

Yours faithfully,
TONY SMYTHE, National Director,
MIND,
22 Harley Street, W1,
April 3.

Mot juste

From the Archdeacon of Durham

Sir, Had Philip Howard (April 4) been a farmer he would have known that the singular of "cattle" is "beast".

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL PERRY,
7 The College,
Durham.

Civil Service pay offer

From Mr P. A. Bayliss

Sir, Mr Callaghan's Government was right three years ago when it proposed a 5 per cent pay norm. Mrs Thatcher's Government was equally right when it set the 6 per cent cash limit and its offer to the Civil Service of a 7 per cent increase in pay is, if anything, too generous in relation to what the economy can bear.

It is a great pity that the 364 economists who announced their collective disapproval of the Government's general economic policy did not endorse this most vital feature of the present situation.

The unpalatable fact is that, when considering our greatest problem, inflation, economists are still agreed neither as to the cause nor the cure. The Association of Independent Businesses has been very critical of the Government's failure to implement its declared policies, especially as regards the rate of reduction in current public expenditure. On the authority of the Budget statement this failure is attributable largely to the £25 billion accounted for by increases in public services pay bill resulting from the Clegg commission and similar catch-up exercises, many involving staged settlements. And, despite this ill-

judged generosity on the part of the Government towards their employees, we still find the Civil Service disaffected, to the point of striking in support of a claim for 15 per cent—even when most of them received 30 per cent last year.

Most disturbing of all is the attitude of the First Division Association of the Civil Service, albeit by a narrow majority, the decision by those appointed as managers of our country to prostitute the skills which their positions of trust enable them to develop so as to disrupt the proper business of government action which in former ages would have been rewarded by summary execution.

In this more enlightened age employers still have to make their employees at their disposal. The job of those who are, and who aspire to be, our senior civil servants is to manage the country. If they go on strike, we suggest seriously to Mrs Thatcher that they should be sacked and the many administrators made redundant in recent months by private industry will readily volunteer for retraining to take their places.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. BAYLISS, Chairman,
Economic Committee,
Association of Independent Businessmen,
As from: 38 Chancery Lane, WC2.

Ban on Veronica Rostropovich

From Mr Claudio Abbado and others

Sir, On April 22 the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Dmitri Kuznetsov will be giving a concert at the Royal Festival Hall.

Among the members of the orchestra is Veronica Rostropovich, who has played in the first violin section of this orchestra for 35 years. She also happens to be the sister of the Russian musician Mstislav Rostropovich. Ever since he was arbitrarily stripped of his Soviet citizenship (in March 1975) his sister has been refused permission to travel abroad with the orchestra. The only official explanation for this refusal is the fact of her relationship with a person whose life and work can, in our opinion, only bring honour to his fellow countrymen.

Having approached and made representations to all the relevant authorities, Veronica Rostropovich recently wrote a letter to President Brezhnev. Her answer was a summons from the Vice-Minister of Culture, Vasily Kukharov, who told her that whilst he was alive, she would never go abroad again.

As musicians, we find this to be intolerable discrimination against a fellow musician—as citizens we deplore this flagrant breach of the Helsinki Agreement on Human Rights. We ask the Soviet Government to reconsider this decision.

Yours faithfully,
CLAUDIO ABBADO,
DANIEL BARENBOIM,
COLIN DAVIS,
JAMES GALWAY,
BERNARD HAITINK,
YEBUDI MENUHIN,
PETER PEARLS,
MAURIZIO POLLINI,
GEORG SOLTI,
ISAAC STERN,
PINCHAS ZUKERMAN.
As from: 4 Holland Park Avenue, W11,
April 7.

Auchinleck's tactics

From Mr Correlli Barnett

Sir, Lord Auchinleck's advice to General Ritchie before the Gazala battle in May 1942, is unfortunately not wholly accurate.

According to the *Official History* (vol III, p. 213), Auchinleck thought that Rommel might attack either by the southern flank or through the British centre, though he believed the latter to be the more likely. He suggested that both British armoured divisions should be concentrated astride the Trigh Capuzzo track west of El Adem, where they could meet either contingency.

He further wrote to Ritchie: "I consider it to be of the utmost importance that you should not break up the organization of either of the armoured divisions. They have been trained to fight as divisions, I hope, and fight as divisions they should be."

In point of fact, Ritchie and/or his subordinate commanders ignored this advice. Placing 7 Armoured well to the south of the Trigh Capuzzo and 1 Armoured, indeed dangerously forward, and in itself not well concentrated. Hence Rommel was able to "jump" its formations piecemeal.

Yours faithfully,
CORRELLI BARNETT,
University of Cambridge,
Faculty of History,
West Road, Cambridge,
April 4.

Art education

From the Chief Officer of the Council for National Academic Awards

Sir, Professor Steer and his distinguished colleagues in their letter (April 4) state that my council intends to phase out its History of Art and Design and Complementary Studies Board. Some of your readers may be led to believe that the studies for which the board has been responsible will likewise be phased out. Nothing could be further from the truth.

There has been in recent years a vigorous move on the part of the study of the studio staff in the colleges and polytechnics towards a greater degree of relevance and a closer integration between historical, theoretical and other complementary studies and the work done in the studio and workshop. The CNA has recognized this development and believes that its own structure of subject boards should be modified to accommodate it.

The council has therefore agreed that the History of Art and Design and Complementary Studies Board in its present form should be phased out. It will be replaced by a new History of Art and Design Board, with responsibility for the important group of self-standing specialist degree courses in the history of art and design. The other subject boards will assume a larger measure of responsibility for the historical and associated studies which contribute to and should be an integral part of courses in the practice of art and design. The membership of all the boards will reflect these various functions.

During the next few months the council's Committee for Art and Design, on which all relevant interests are represented, will be making recommendations to the council on the best way of implementing these decisions, with due regard for the preservation of standards.

Yours faithfully,
EDWIN KERR, Chief Officer,
Council for National Academic Awards,
34-35 Gray's Inn Road, WC1,
April 4.

Diminishing returns

From Mr Robin Bryer

Sir, As a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) I have become accustomed to being addressed as Mr T. Pi. It has an oriental ring to it which I find rather charming.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN BRYER,
Clenworth,
Xeovil, Somerset.

Obituary
PROF AL
TALBOT
Mathematician
at Brunel

Hunting Gate
4444
More than builders
(0452) 4444

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

مكتبة من الأصول

17
Hard choices
facing the
building
societies, page 19

Stock markets
FT Ind 539.4, up 13.6
FT Gilt 69.47, up 0.08

Sterling
£2.2030, up 95 points
Index 99.4, up 0.5

Dollar
Index 100.6, down 0.8
DM 2.1250, down 130 pts

Gold
\$509.50, down \$3

Money
3-mth sterling 12½-12¾
3-mth Euro \$ 154-155
6-mth Euro \$ 151-152

Japan offers Poland respite over debts

Japan is the latest country to offer Poland a delay in repaying its debts. It will have until the end of June to pay the \$20m (£13.6m) due now. Poland's total debt to Japan is \$100m.

Central bankers and finance ministers meet in Paris today to consider rescheduling the \$10,000m owed to western governments and export credit agencies. The full debt to the West is about \$25,000m.

German banks have already indicated that they are prepared to accept a delay until the end of 1981 for repayments of principal which should have been made in the second quarter. These debts amount to \$1,000m.

Midland Euro issue

As part of its continuing need for long-term capital in its international business, Midland Bank is raising \$150m in the Eurobond market with the issue of 10-year floating rate notes. The bank is offering a 9 per cent minimum coupon to appeal to the retail investor.

Housing starts

The National Council of Building Material Producers predicts that builders will start work on 120,000 houses during 1981, with 135,000 "starts" in 1982 and 145,000 in 1983. The council expects a general decline in the construction industry to continue.

Building delay, page 18

Acardi sales pact

Bacardi, the rum producer, and Courage Imperial Group's reviving arm, have reached an amicable and satisfactory settlement of their differences arising from Courage pub customers allegedly being served other makes of rum when asking for the bar for a Bacardi drink. Courage's perering companies have undertaken not to make such institutions and Bacardi, in its future, will tell rum within 48 hours.

Cigarette output cut

Cigarette and cigar production is to be suspended in seven Imperial Group factories because of a big drop in orders. The Budget price rise, workers will be paid to stay home while the plants reduce production by the equivalent of days work during April and May.

IS silver sales

The American Government is aiming to sell a total of 10 million ounces of silver as its strategic stockpile over the next four years. The metal Services Administration, which argues that domestic production of silver covers strategic needs, will dispose of million ounces this year.

IP licences refused

The Office of Fair Trading is refusing or revoking consumer credit licences for 22 lenders in the six months up to the end of February.

Wall Street up

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 993.43, up 0.54. Wall Street yesterday. The S&P 500 exchange rate was 220.50 while the £-SDR rate was 0.553390.

PRICE CHANGES

ises	25p to 435p	Lasmo	15p to 545p
CC	17p to 252p	London Sumatra	15p to 535p
Ursons Malay	17p to 218p	Shell Trans	11p to 481p
gas & Bull	15p to 219p	SA Land	25p to 522p
ozon	15p to 260p	Unilever	13p to 521p

alls	23p to 653p	Marlevald Con	16p to 171p
iglo Am Corp	8p to 425p	Middle Wits	10p to 675p
rtow Rand	10p to 218p	SA Land	25p to 522p
burg Gold	13p to 119p	UC Invest	26p to 533p
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stria Sc <th>78.25</th> <th>Sweden Kr</th> <th>10.65</th>	78.25	Sweden Kr	10.65
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THE POUND

Pressure grows for bank bid monopolies reference

By Ronald Pullen

Pressure was growing yesterday for the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation's offer of nearly £500m for the Royal Bank of Scotland to be referred to the Monopolies Commission. This possibility acted as a strong brake on Royal Bank's share price which after an initial 16p surge closed only 4p higher at 172p, a 20 per cent discount on the Hongkong bank's terms announced on Tuesday evening.

Much of the interest in the proposed takeover is now centring on the attitude of the Bank of England, which appears to have reservations about the move, but officials are unsure about the grounds on which they can oppose the deal.

There have been several meetings between Mr Michael Sandberg, chairman of the Hongkong bank, and Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, but unlike the reaction to the earlier Standard Chartered approach which sparked off the auction for Royal Bank, the Bank of England has so far not given its imprimatur. This is already

being interpreted as an indication of the Bank's position. In fact the Hongkong bank's move raises important questions of principle for the Bank of England which takes its officials into uncharted waters.

Guidelines for banking takeovers were last set out in 1972 but these largely related to the accepting houses where the Bank said it no longer objected to clearing banks, and for that matter EEC banks, taking stakes of up to 25 per cent.

The guidelines added that the Bank expected all proposals where a foreign bank proposed to take an interest of 15 per cent or more to be discussed with it beforehand. These rules have never really been put to the test, certainly not in the case where a perfectly healthy and profitable bank such as the Royal Bank has been subjected to a takeover by a foreign bank.

The Bank of England's reservations about foreign bank takeovers lie in the dimming of its control over domestic banking institutions which has now been put on to a statutory basis with the 1979 Banking Act.

Although the Hongkong bank has been going to great lengths

to emphasize its "Britishness" — Mr Sandberg was in Edinburgh yesterday arguing that both the board and shareholders were mostly British — the Bank of England is concerned that the Hongkong Bank is Hongkong-based, incorporated and supervised, this acts as a considerable constraint on the degree of control that can be exercised locally by the Bank.

Again the Bank would have to be convinced that the assurances that Hongkong Bank seem prepared to give in the heat of a bid, especially over its level of disclosure, would hold good over a long period.

The Bank of England's problem is that apart from moral suasion it has very little legislative ground to stand on to reject an overseas banking takeover.

Under the Banking Act it has to approve a change of control of the bank, but the purpose of issuing a banking licence is to ensure that the Hongkong bank could be disqualified on these grounds. The only legislative route that seems to be open to the Bank is to seek a reference under the monopolies law, that the take-

over may act against the public interest.

The Governor said at last week's Treasury select committee meeting that while welcoming the proposed merger between Standard Chartered and the Royal Bank, other mergers would depend on the individual banks.

Meanwhile, there was still no word from Standard Chartered about whether it intended to come back with an improved offer. Royal Bank directors met with Mr Sandberg in Edinburgh yesterday but they still are "considering the offer" according to Mr Charles Winter, deputy managing director.

Despite weak stockmarket conditions in Hongkong, Hongkong bank's share price quickly recovered an early fall to close 2p up at 135p as local analysts took the view that in diluting its equity by 20 per cent in return for a 15 per cent earnings gain it was getting a remarkably good deal in taking over "one of the last profitable avenues in which we can move into Europe", as Mr John Boyer, Hongkong bank's deputy chairman, described the move.

Leading article, page 15

Share index up 13.6 in buoyant market

By Margaret Pagano

The FT Index yesterday recorded its biggest single day's rise in over 15 months when it closed 13.6 higher at 539.4.

Dealers were surprised by the leap, particularly after the sharp rise in Tuesday's bank lending figures dashed any hopes of an early cut in MLR. It was this hope, coupled with signs that the recession was beginning to recede which helped inspire recent buoyant market trading.

Last Thursday the index rose to 541.9, up 12.1 on the previous day. But dealers remain undeterred and talk is still about a cut in MLR.

The strength of the index appears to come from a combination of factors. The easing of tension over fears of Russian intervention in Poland improved sentiment. New time buying before the three-week Easter account starting on Friday and the long list of results yesterday also helped trigger the rise.

Institutional investors continued to support equities and although jobbers had marked prices down in the morning most blue chip companies saw large gains.

Steele and oils sectors showed advances with trading news but it was the banking sector which sparked with the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation's £500m counter bid for the Royal Bank of Scotland.

But optimism did not spread to government securities where dealers reported little more than price inquiries. Prices moved in slim limits. Both long and short gilts were unchanged with some small rises of £1/16.

Ford of Britain profits down 41 per cent as car sales slump

By Edward Townsend

Ford of Britain, for many years the major motor manufacturer, suffered a 41 per cent slump in profits last year, achieving a pre-tax figure of £226m against the 1979 record level of £386m.

After a year in which sales, export revenue and profits all declined, Mr Sam Toy, the chairman and managing director, disclosed that by the second half of 1980 Ford was not making a profit on its United Kingdom operations.

The company's annual report, published today, also shows that no dividend was paid last year to the United States parent company which itself is facing severe financial problems. Ford of America made a loss of \$1,540m (£884m) one of the largest deficits in United States history.

Ford UK has paid a dividend in only five of the last 10 years although it has made substantial loans to the American operation. At the end of 1979, the company loaned £225m to Ford of America, which was repaid last year, and in 1981 loans will rise to £438m.

The loans have been made at commercial rates of interest which has helped to boost Ford UK's earnings considerably. The company's operating profit in 1980 of £139m was increased by £85m of net interest income, most of which came from the United States parent. This also includes £19.1m received in interest relief grant from the Government.

Ford UK's profits for 1980, which would be reduced to £155m under current cost accounting, were achieved on sales that fell back from the record 1979 figures of £3,193m to £2,924m. Group sales in export markets were £957m compared with £1,167m in 1979 while direct exports from the United Kingdom amounted to £852m (£1,010m).

Capital expenditure was £324m, twice as high as for previous years except the £334m spent in 1979, the latter includ-



Mr Sam Toy: 1980 sales 'fell away'

ing investment in the new engine plant in South Wales. Ford said that expenditure in its pipeline, either committed contracts or authorized programmes, was £422m against £347m a year earlier.

Mr Toy, who took over as chairman from Sir Terence Beckett, now director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said in a letter to employees that in the four years to 1984 the company planned investments totalling £1,408m. "And we are working on the biggest and most comprehensive product development programme we have ever undertaken", he added.

The group, which includes factories in Ireland and Belgium as well as the British operations, sold 713,000 cars, trucks and tractors in 1980, against only 684,000 in 1979. Mr Toy said that last year began well "and then dramatically fell away".

"Our competitors are spending millions of pounds in promoting their vehicles and there is also the possibility of further competition from a Japanese manufacturing plant in Britain." The most vital contribution to the fight had to be made within the company. "Both at management level and on the shop floor, we have to become more effective and more efficient."

Independent steelmakers attack BSC pricing

By Peter Hill

Industrial Editor

Pricing policies being used by the British Steel Corporation to regain business lost abroad were attacked strongly yesterday by independent UK steelmakers who claimed the policy was endangering private sector companies.

Mr Selwyn Williams, deputy director of the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, told an all-party committee of MPs: "They have gone too far in their quest for markets, using, we believe, wrong commercial judgment. We believe the BSC has got it wrong."

Labour revives plans for worker involvement

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Labour politicians and trade union leaders have privately revived plans for worker involvement in all levels of decision making both in state corporations and private companies.

Confidential minutes of a meeting in the House of Commons approved by the TUC's economic committee yesterday disclosed that the Shadow Cabinet and the unions have reached a broad agreement on a policy of industrial democracy to be introduced into the next General Election.

The unions also made clear their intention to seek an extension to their statutory rights, "building on the positive gains" of the Employment Protection Act and the Industry Act. Shadow Ministers are already committed to repeal of the 1980 Employment Act when Labour returns to power.

According to the minutes, in their talks with the politicians the unions questioned the rigid demarcation between the public and private sectors of industry.

"While it was clearly necessary to break the 'Morrisonian mould' of public companies, there was no reason why the public sectors should be excluded from the extension of industrial democracy to all levels of economic decision-making."

"And in any case, it was suggested, many enterprises no longer fitted easily into either category. The proliferation of firms with both public and private capital backing blurred the distinction between the two types of ownership."

The minutes go on to record repeated stress on the argu-

ment that there was no single solution to the "problem" of industrial democracy, and the working party on this issue, set up under the umbrella of the TUC Labour Party Liaison Committee, would be to come forward with flexible proposals.

These measures would have to be permitted in character, giving workers' representative statutory rights that could become operative as they wished.

Further talks are to be held between the unions, Labour's National Executive and the Shadow Cabinet on this topic, but the TUC side has insisted that industrial democracy must allow not only for an extension of trade union rights in respect of corporate planning but also recognize the need for free and independent trade unions.

At the end of their talks, politicians and union leaders agreed a five-point policy accepting industrial democracy had to be based upon the "single channel" approach through the trade unions. How it should be done will be worked out later in the light of policies on planning towards industry.

But the TUC will insist on the link with collective bargaining being maintained by further consideration being given to the extension of statutory rights, including building on the positive gains of the Employment Protection Act and the Industry Act.

Shadow Ministers have been asked to make clear which department of the Labour Government will be responsible for industrial democracy, and to consider trade union representation on the boards of trustees of pension funds.

650 jobs lost in engineering closure

By Edward Townsend

Laurence, Scott & Electromotors, the electrical equipment manufacturer, is to close its Manchester factory at Oldham in July with the loss of 650 jobs.

The company, formed in 1896 and regarded as one of Manchester's oldest engineering companies, is based at Northgate and has other plants at Blantyre and Wolverhampton.

Laurence, Scott, which became the subject of a takeover bid by Mining Supplies last year, made a loss of £1.9m in the year to March, 1980, and in the following five months a loss of £1.7m.

Grove Cranes is to make 60 workers redundant at its factories at Copley and Bicester. A call for volunteers will be made later today.

Mr Peter Dawson, managing director, said he hoped natural wastage and voluntary redundancies would trim the 60 names. The cutback will leave Grove Cranes with just under 500 employees in the Oxford area.

Mr Dawson said short time working would begin at both plants soon and "continue indefinitely".

More than 200 workers will lose their jobs with the closure of the Star Aluminium plant in Wolverhampton. The company, which is transferring production to its other plant in Bridgnorth, says it must slim down to survive.

Seventy workers will be made redundant next month and another 140 in October when the plant is due to close.

Sterling gains continue

By Our Economics Staff

The pound continued to gain on a generally weaker dollar as continental currencies after Tuesday's disappointing bank lending and money supply figures.

It surged 2½ cents to \$2.2160 at one stage before falling back to close in London up 95 points at \$2.2030. The Bank of England's index for sterling against a basket of leading currencies improved 0.5 from Tuesday to 99.4 (average 1975=100).

The dollar's weakness stemmed mainly from reduced tension over Poland, which prompted renewed confidence in European currencies such as the Deutsche mark, and lower domestic and Euro-dollar interest rates.

After dipping below DM 2.12 in mid-session, the dollar recovered to finish trading at DM2.1250, down 1.30 pfennigs from Tuesday. Its Bank of England index fell 0.8 to 100.6.

The Belgian franc strengthened markedly against other currencies in the European Monetary System, though it remains the weakest member, after the formation on Tuesday of a new government under former finance minister Mr Mark Eyskens, pledged to support the currency at its present parity.

Yugoslav Land-Rover deal

Belgrade, April 8. — BL's Rover car division will sign an agreement in principle to assemble Land Rovers in Yugoslavia, Mr Cecil Parkinson, British Trade Minister, said today.

He told reporters the agreement for a joint venture, worth \$2m (£418,000), would be signed tomorrow in the southern town of Ivangrad, where the plant is to be built. The plant, employing about 1,000, would take about two years to build.

A BL spokesman in London said the plant would initially assemble 2,000 to 3,000 vehicles a year from "kits" made in Britain. But the agreement included local contracts for the widest possible use of Yugoslav materials and components.

Tomorrow's agreement would give only project outline and further details were likely to be worked out later. The plant would not be financed by Britain — Reuters.

BL sells more than 100 cars a year in Yugoslavia, the only British-based motor manufacturer to increase its share of the market in the first three months of this year, to 20.67 per cent. Four BL cars appear in the March top 10 — the Metro, Mini, Allegro, and the Metro and Mini now account for 11 per cent of the United Kingdom market.

W Germany and France agree fund-raising to modernize economies

Bonn pact on £9,600m projects

From Peter Norman

Bonn, April 8

West Germany and France will raise long term credits in the international capital markets in parallel to help finance projects intended to modernize their two economies.

A joint statement issued in Paris and Bonn this afternoon said that the Credit National in France and the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau in West Germany would raise the equivalent of 5,000 million European currency units (about £9,600m) over the next 18 months.

Dr Otto Lambsdorff, the German economics minister, said in Bonn that Germany would be raising its half of the total planned borrowing in Deutschmarks. The proceeds of the fund-raising would amount to 2,500 million DM and be lent by the Kreditanstalt at interest rates subsidized by the federal government to help finance investments that would encourage technological innovation and create jobs, and were intended to reduce Germany's dependence on imported oil.

Today's announcement put an end to several days of confused speculation that the two countries were planning to float a large joint loan to be offered directly to members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries which might even have been denominated in European currency units (ECUs).

In the event, the use of ECU to describe the scale of the borrowing is in the German than window-dressing, and in the German case the borrowing will be made through the time-honoured medium of promissory note loans.

Although Dr Lambsdorff suggested that parallel fund raising could have psychological benefits by demonstrating that two countries were determined to solve their economic problems together, it means simply that West Germany and France will be lining up to borrow funds at the same time.

However, the possibility of the French government getting some electoral mileage from the scheme has not been discounted, if President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing can manage to associate the operation in the public eye with measures to combat unemployment.



Dr Otto Lambsdorff (right), the German economics minister, and Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl, the president of the central bank, before the cabinet meeting in Bonn yesterday to discuss the new economic measures.

The Bonn cabinet today discussed a number of projects that were likely to benefit from the parallel financing scheme and are intended to smooth the German economy's path towards recovery.

Dr Lambsdorff was adamant that the measures did not constitute a programme to stimulate the economy. Most of the projects were outlined in the government's policy statement last autumn, and it seems that the cabinet decided today to give them a new political push.

Dr Lambsdorff said that an existing energy saving programme of DM4,350m (£925m) would be geared to providing energy saving devices such as solar energy equipment, heating pumps and district heating systems where they would be economically without government assistance.

He said that the Bonn Government would press the states and utility companies to accelerate approval procedures for coal and nuclear power stations. The federal post office would be encouraged to develop its telecommunications network rapidly including a glass fibre cable network to link corporate information systems.

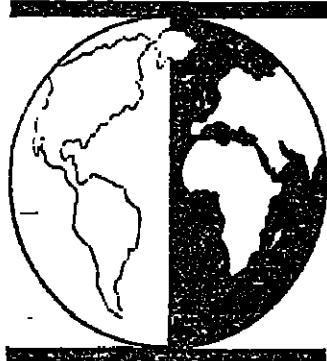
He also promised that the government would be considering its house building programme at the end of May.

Although the phrase "supply side economics" has yet to reach Bonn, Dr Lambsdorff presumably had this in mind when he said the measures discussed today were designed to bring a structural improvement to the economy and not a short term boost.

Westland/Utrecht Hypotheekbank nv
Registered office in Amsterdam

Shareholders, holders of Bearer Depositary Receipts, debenture Bonds, mortgage bonds and other securities are hereby invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, to be held at the offices of the Company, Surinamestraat 1 in Amsterdam, on Tuesday 28 April, 1981 at 10.30 a.m.

- Agenda**
- The agenda of the Ordinary Meeting of Shareholders, to be held at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday 28 April 1981 at the offices of the Company, Surinamestraat 1 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands is as follows:
 1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. To approve the manner of recording the Minutes, in accordance with Article 27, paragraph 3 of the Articles of Association.
 3. Discussion of correspondence received.
 4. Consideration of the Annual Report of the Board of Management concerning the affairs of the Company and the management thereof in the year 1980.
 5. Adoption of the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1980 and the Profit and Loss Account for 1980, and the notes thereto, as approved by the Supervisory Board.
 6. Approval of the distribution of profit pursuant to Article 25 of the Articles of Association, including the fixing of the dividend for 1980.
 7. Filing of the vacancy arising on the Supervisory Board on 28th April 1981 following the retirement by rotation of Mr. E.A. Brouwer.
 8. Filing of the vacancy arising on the Supervisory Board on 28th April 1981 following the retirement of Professor Kesteren.
 9. The General Meeting of Shareholders has a right to nominate candidates to fill this vacancy.
 10. Any other business and closure of the meeting.
- In order to attend the meeting in person, or to be represented by a proxy, duly authorized in writing, or to address the meeting and exercise the right to vote, shareholders are required to give notice to the Board of Management of their intention to attend the meeting in person or to present the relevant instrument of proxy to the Board of Management at the latest 7 days prior to the meeting, holders of these securities are entitled to attend the meeting in person, or to be represented by a proxy duly authorized in writing, and to address the meeting. Holders of mortgage bonds, private loans and debentures are entitled upon the production of their securities to attend and address the meeting. Documents containing information concerning the subjects to be dealt with at the meeting will be available for inspection by the above-mentioned shareholders at least 3 days prior to the meeting in person, or to be represented by a proxy duly authorized in writing, or to address the meeting. Copies of the Annual Report in English are available from April 21st at the same addresses.
- Board of Management.
Amsterdam, April 8, 1981.



Exports warning to Japan

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has told Japan to curb exports to West Europe or face the threat of trade protectionism.

After talks with Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, he told reporters in Tokyo that Japan should show a greater awareness of the problems caused by the flood of Japanese exports.

Lord Carrington, ending a four-day visit to Japan, said Japanese exports were concentrated on the most sensitive parts of European industry.

Taiwan trade 'lead'

The Republic of China lags far behind Taiwan in foreign trade competition, despite its modernization programmes, a Taipei Economic Ministry report said. The report estimates China's 1980 foreign trade at \$35,000m with a \$312m deficit against Taiwan's foreign trade of \$39,500m with a \$46.5m surplus.

Italian strike call

Italy's National Confederation of Trade Unions has called for a four-hour general strike of industrial workers for April 28 to protest against the new monetary curbs imposed by the four-party coalition government led by Signor Amintore Fanfani, the Christian Democrat Prime Minister.

French growth decline

France's gross domestic product expanded by 1.3 per cent in volume last year, down from growth rates of 3.1 per cent in 1979, 3.5 per cent in 1978 and 3.1 per cent in 1977, the national statistics institute said in Paris.

Japan-Russia talks

Japan and the Soviet Union are holding talks on a new five-year trade agreement according to officials in Tokyo. The previous agreement expired at the end of last year.

Norway jobs aim

Norway must have a yearly economic growth of about 2.5 per cent during 1982-85 to achieve the goal of full employment, Mr Per Kleppe, Planning Minister, told parliament in Oslo.

Volkswagen short-time

Volkswagen is to introduce short-time working for 18,200 workers at its Hanover and Braunschweig truck plants because of a sharp fall in truck sales.

EEC output fall

EEC industrial production continued to fall in January, showing a year-on-year drop of 7.3 per cent, according to estimates from the EEC Statistics Bureau in Luxembourg.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

Notice is hereby given that the 57th Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at 11 Dalrymple Street, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 21st day of May 1981, at 2.30 pm for the following business:

To consider the accounts and balance sheet for the year ended 31st December 1980 and the Report of the Directors and Auditors.

To elect Directors.

To fix the remuneration of Directors.

To appoint Auditors.

To transact any other business which may come before the Meeting.

Form of Proxy for the use of Members of the Society who are unable to attend the Meeting, may be obtained on application to the Secretary, 11 Dalrymple Street, Edinburgh, or by post to the Secretary, 11 Dalrymple Street, Edinburgh, enclosing a recent photograph of the Member.

C. J. CANNAN, Secretary.

11 Dalrymple Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6JL.

21st April 1981.

NOTE: A copy of the Report will be sent to each Member on request.

BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS

Mr James Cook, Mr James R. Glancy, Mr Patrick H. Haining, Mr John H. Haining, Mr E. Graham Meek, Mr Robert J. O'Connell, Mr Peter A. Rice and Mr Ian M. Stephenson will join the Partnership of Messrs Wood, MacLennan & Co., Stockbrokers of Edinburgh and London on 10th April, 1981.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange.

McMULLEN & SONS, LIMITED

Placing of up to 424,340 10½ per cent Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the 10½ per cent Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each in the capital of the Company to be admitted to the Official List.

Dealings are expected to commence on 14th April 1981.

Particulars are available in the Eitel Statistical Service and copies may be obtained during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 24th April 1981 from:

Lazard Brothers & Co., Ltd. 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT

Cazenove & Co. 12 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN

Manufacturers attempt to regain ground lost to cans and plastics

Glass makers in battle for the bottle

Profits in the glass container industry, whose sales are worth £385m a year, have suffered from declining demand and competition from cans and plastics bottles, but the industry is starting to win back lost ground.

Its share of the packaging market, now worth £3,540m a year, has risen by 2 per cent to 12 per cent, at the expense of the plastics and glass container imports. To improve the sales trend, Rockware Glass, the United Kingdom's second largest glass container manufacturer, is introducing wrap-around labels for soft drinks bottles. The company is also expecting one of the big brewers to announce a switch to glass containers for take-home beers soon, an important move in a sector dominated by cans.

United Glass, the largest British glass container maker which is jointly owned by Distillers, the whisky maker, and Owens-Illinois, of the United States, has introduced a plastic-shielded bottle to reverse the trend against glass in the market. Supermarkets led the swing to cans and plastic bottles because of reduced losses through breakages and ease of handling.

Annual returns coming into the Glass Manufacturers Federation show how far the glass container industry has to go to win a greater market share. Cans for foods, drinks and other items accounted

for 19.2 per cent of the market last year, up from 18.1 per cent the previous year. Plastics went down from 21.1 per cent to 15.8 per cent.

Imported glass fell by 1.6 per cent to 8.8 per cent, but there was a decline of 8.4 per cent in demand for glass containers in the United Kingdom last year. United Glass made a loss in the second half of the year ending in November, and Rockware made only £472,000 in pretax profits compared with £52m in 1979.

The glass makers' toughest fight is in the take-home beer market, where cans account for more than 90 per cent. This is in sharp contrast to the United States where glass still accounts for around 40 per cent of take-home sales.

But some multiple grocers are preferring "wide mouth" glass bottles for beer and Rockware says that sales of this new-style bottle, which is easier to drink from directly, could increase 40 per cent this year albeit from a low base.

Packaging to encase clusters of bottles is improving handling qualities in supermarkets but attempts to make popular the clip-on plastic cages frequently found in the United States have not met much success in Britain.

Rockware's latest shot in the cans versus bottles battle is in the carbonated soft drinks market where sales are worth £580m. Glass, once the predominant

packaging medium, is down to 37 per cent, compared with 59 per cent for cans and 4 per cent for PET (polyethylene terephthalate), the recently introduced specialised plastic containers. PET, which does not permit the fizz to escape like some other plastics has made the greatest progress among one and two litre containers.

Rockware has invested about £250,000 in launching its new labelling system. The bottles which are laminated to resist scuffing and labelling before filling to reduce costs at bottling plants, are claimed to be no more expensive than unlabelled bottles.

But the new system is less easily adapted for beer bottles because the labels do not resist the pasteurization needed for beer. At present labels can be added only after the beer is bottled but there is research to try to overcome this problem.

A. G. Barr, the soft drinks company whose top half dozen sellers in the market were Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola are the top two brands, expects the new labelling to increase its market share in the quarter-litre sector.

But Barr's strength is still in the returnable bottles sector which in soft drinks still accounts for half the market, down recently from a 60 per cent share.

Derek Harris

13,500 cut in docks labour force forecast

By Michael Bailey

Further extensive reductions in Britain's docks labour force from 23,500 to 10,000 in three years was foreshadowed yesterday by Mr James Davidson, chairman of the British Ports Association and director of the Clyde Port Authority.

The industry, which had a workforce of 58,000 in 1967, is facing a further "severe slimming down", and a "period of contraction in which some of our ports are likely to finish as a shadow of what they are at present", he told the association's annual lunch in London.

The problems of surplus dock labour was now a "major national problem", and also a "major human problem", which ports felt should be aided by the state in other ports as well as in London and Liverpool. He told Mr Norman Macmillan, Secretary of State for Transport.

"We welcome the aid you are giving to London and Liverpool, but other scheme ports feel the higher severance payments to encourage dockers to leave should have been extended to all ports. In the national interest the price indeed would be small for the benefits gained."

Mr Fowler stuck adamantly to his previous refusal to extend the scheme, however, insisting that the future of the industry now lay in the hands of the ports.

London and Liverpool were "wholly exceptional", he said, in that each faced a crisis it could not solve alone and would have ceased trading without state help. But London and Liverpool could not look forward to a permanent subsidised future.

According to Mr Davidson, labour surpluses in many ports as a result of the recession and the switch to unit loads would not be removed when the economy took a turn for the better.

The only answer to this, many port employers feel privately, is the abolition or radical alterations of the National Dock Labour scheme, which guarantees permanent employment for dockers even if there is no work. But they recognize its political impracticability at the present time, and Mr Davidson significantly made no reference to it.

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As a result of a live-for-four stock split in the shares of common stock of International Controls Corp into which the above described debentures are convertible, the conversion rate of the debentures has been adjusted from \$53.50 per share to \$42.80 per share.

Rival pipeline scheme ends UK hopes of securing Norwegian gas

By Our Industrial Staff

Norwegian energy ministers are to ask the Scottish Government to approve a pipeline system proposed by the Statoil group which will enable North Sea gas to be landed at Kaarstoe, near Haugesund, in the north of Norway, and then piped to the United Kingdom.

The cost of the project, which is similar to a gas gathering system planned for the British sector of the North Sea, was put at Nor £2,500m (about £1,000m) by officials of the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy in Oslo.

It was hoped in Britain that gas from the Statoil field, which straddles the Anglo-Norwegian median line, would be fed into the United Kingdom system, thus making it a more attractive investment.

Despite intensive efforts by

ministers and officials, and what was regarded as a competitively-priced bid by British Gas, the prospects that this would happen have receded in recent weeks.

Last month, Mr Hamish Gray, Minister of State for Energy, said it was unlikely that the Norwegian pipelines would compete with that being planned by Britain. He remains confident that despite the failure to obtain Statoil gas, the British system can go ahead, bringing benefits to the United Kingdom's petrochemical industry.

The Norwegian Government said yesterday that some gas would be extracted at Kaarstoe for a new petrochemical plant. The remainder would go to a platform in the Snipser area near Ekofisk, and then link with the Heimdal field. Gas not used in Norway will be piped to Emden in West Germany.

Minister reveals check on contracts Call to eliminate delay in UK building work

By John Huxley

A "concerted and continuous attack" on delays in building work has been called for by Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction. He has also questioned the efficiency of an industry based on "historic demarcation lines".

Evidence shows that on average it takes twice as long to put up a standard factory in Britain as in North America or elsewhere in Western Europe. Housebuilding times in the United States are also "conspicuously quicker", according to the minister.

Mr Stanley disclosed that delays were sufficiently serious for the Government to have set up a special research project to establish the causes. The project, which will examine contracts in progress, is being carried out by the government-funded Building Research Establishment in conjunction with Kennington Little & Partners, structural engineers.

The study is being directed by a group chosen to represent the construction industry and its clients. It is hoped that an interim report can be prepared for submission to the economic development committee for the building industry by the end of the month.

Mr Stanley told a meeting of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors yesterday. The project will concentrate on performance on industrial building sites. This sector is regarded by the National Economic Development Council and the Government as having an important contribution to make to Britain's industrial recovery.

Factory building also received a fresh stimulus in the Budget, where the Chancellor improved the allowances available to investors.

Officials at the Building Research Station said yesterday that the initiative for the study had come from Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Previous attempts by the industry to examine reasons for delays and to compare its performance with that of its counterparts overseas have not been wholly successful in the past. In part, they have been complicated by alleged differences between private and public housebuilding, where the latter is performed by direct labour.



Mr John Stanley: foreign builders "conspicuously quicker".

Mr Stanley believes his report will be of "material value". He said: "Industry must be tough on the Government where Government is responsible for unreasonable delay, and it must be equally tough on itself, company by company, in remorselessly eradicating both on-site and off-site losses of time."

Time is money. Delay means loss of profitability. The industry's ability to reduce its time to construct must be a key means whereby it can secure lower costs, increased competitiveness and a higher work-load.

The minister also drew into question the present "traditional organization of construction in this country".

He said that the industry must ask itself rigorously and objectively "whether the historic demarcation lines of the roles of contractors, architects and quantity surveyors" produced the organization best likely to produce optimum speed, optimum efficiency and optimum quality.

In the past, ministers have expressed grave concern over Britain's poor performance on large construction sites which has been cited as a deterrent to industrial investment.

Mr Norman Lamont, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Energy, gave a reminder yesterday that every effort must be made to ensure that nuclear power stations must be built to time and to cost.

The Government, however, acknowledges that performance in some sectors has improved.

Improving satellite geography

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Editor

A new technique for the processing of geographical data from satellites, claimed to be the most advanced of its type, has been developed by the National Remote Sensing Centre at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

The technique, based on what is known as a digital mosaic, enables a better-quality composite picture of a geographical area to be built up from a number of individual images of different parts of the area. The individual images are those obtained by sensors aboard American Landsat earth-resources satellites.

One result of the Farnborough work has been to produce a complete picture of the United Kingdom which is the most accurate yet obtained. An earlier example of useful Landsat information was evidence that the position of sandbanks in the Bristol Channel had moved appreciably over a period of a few years.

Set up 12 months ago, the centre is funded by a number of Government bodies with an interest in earth-resources information. They include the Department of Industry; Department of the Environment; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Overseas Development Administration; National Environmental Research Council; and the Scottish Development Department.

The centre acts as Britain's focal point for the development and application of remote-sensing techniques.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The confusion of moral standards

From the Archbishop of York

Sir, I would not wish Mr Peter Cadbury ("Archbishop's attack on the City's role", April 7) or any of my friends in the City, to feel that I have launched an unconsidered attack on the City itself. In the Lenten lecture I was simply addressing myself to the problem of why we are less clear in our own day than our forefathers were in theirs about standards of honesty. That question presses upon every schoolteacher, every policeman, every magistrate, every social worker of moral standards was simply illustrated in the reaction to the great train robbery. It was a dangerous, criminal act and was heavily punished, but many people were aware that there are activities perfectly legal in themselves which likewise involve the use of large sums of money. A "well-timed takeover bid" (as I described it) can destroy a flourishing business, impoverish small shareholders, and put thousands of jobs at risk. To give that illustration is not to incriminate the City as a whole but to point to certain activities which are not to be regarded as less than by the business community itself. The fact that there are "buccannery" about does not

suggest that all who have to conduct their business in financial waters are "pirates". It was, after all, a Conservative Prime Minister who originated, or at least popularized, the remark about the "unacceptable face of capitalism".

Nevertheless, I take Mr Cadbury's point. Every lecturer will know the argument deflected by a picturesque illustration which is capable of being isolated from the material as a whole. The argument, however, remains, and it is that it is not so easy for the untutored (as I am in this field) to make moral distinctions between what some people call "robbery" and what other people call "financial warfare".

There was a time when I myself wore a pin-striped suit and a Homburg hat and carried an umbrella and went to the City every day. I have many friends in the City of London and I have the highest regard for their integrity. Most of them are indeed striving after the highest standards in business and commercial life and I have no wish to vilify them.

STUART EBOR, Bishopthorpe, York YO2 1QE, April 7.

Are there too many accountants in UK?

From Mr William Beckett

Sir, I believe it is time to raise a trumpet blast against the monstrous regiment of accountants.

From the figures published on March 30, "Towards the European accountancy", the United Kingdom boasts a total of 80,300 chartered accountants respectively. The country with the highest total after the United Kingdom is Italy with 14,000; is it a coincidence that the United Kingdom and Italy are generally regarded as the richest economies in Europe?

It is also perhaps significant that the average qualifying age is lower—25—than any other country (except Ireland) and that a degree is not compulsory.

Any general conclusions drawn from this? A number are possible but the outstanding one is that companies in the United Kingdom are subjected to more frequent and supposedly rigorous audits than other countries. An auditor looks at the existing stocks of money and goods from which are produced accounts which are then viewed by all and sundry as representing a correct picture of the health and wealth of the company. Yet those accounts present only an historic view of the situation at a particular time rather than providing any basis for a forecast of the future for that company, even though everyone is aware that relatively small shifts in market conditions may

quickly make companies start to trade at a loss.

A further statement in the article is that no less than 75 per cent of the 80,300 total work in industry and commerce. What is the probable answer is that accountants stand a very good chance of getting on to the board of their firm and, in due course, becoming chief executives. I have no doubt that this is a very good thing.

One may ask why this is so when the tendency in Germany, France, Italy or Japan is for engineers or marketing people to run the show. I believe it is because of the good old British tradition of compromise, since, in any industry or commercial organization, the production people and the marketing people are fighting for their heads—to get their own way.

This infighting generates a great deal of creative tension or friction resulting in highly motivated companies. However, on too many occasions the chairman or board has decided to resolve the conflict by bringing in — guess who — an accountant. The result of which is that both the marketing and production people are dissatisfied, because neither of them respect or trust the compromise accountant who is forced to lurch from one strategy to another without giving any chance to pay off.

WILLIAM BECKETT, 8 Elthorpe Road, London SW7.

Engineering profession

From Mr R. Sabry-Grant

Sir, It is clear the determining factor in the engineering profession is the institutions' attitudes. (The Sunday Times, March 29) is a brave effort by the engineering institutions against insurmountable odds to provide a professional background and support in a progressively hostile environment for those courageous enough to try to maintain professional standards.

It is in this country's interest to understand their common aims, encourage them to group together and to voice their views for all the expert advice of engineering lay people. Britain's wealth-creating future is at stake.

R. SABRY-GRANT, 248 Chase Road, London N14, April 4.

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Windfall tax on the banks

From the President of British Bankers' Association

Sir, As I have recently written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, this association, representing over 250 banks in the United Kingdom, cannot deplore the windfall tax which it is proposed to impose on some 30 of them. This retrogressive tax and open criticism on that account.

But apart from the ill call of imposing a tax banks' profits, which is related to those profits but the size of their non-interest bearing deposits, it should be recognized that such a would constitute an erosion those banks' reserves at a time when their liabilities have sharply increased by inflation.

It is the amount of the available reserves of a bank which dictates the degree risk it can undertake in lending, and such reserves come from retained profits after tax. It is important these reserves should be proportionately to the growth in liabilities.

It would seem that banks are currently being vited to lend to some industries and commercial customers the limit of what can be considered prudent. A bank first duty is to those entrusted with deposits, therefore must be a hand in meeting the demands of industrial customers if at the same time the growth of free reserves is restricted.

The strength of the rease of British banks is an admired abroad, as was shown once again when Bank of England and the City of London launched the "boat" at the time of the fr bank crisis in 1973/74. strength constitutes an im tant element in the attract of London as a financial ce and source of investible exp It is meeting vigorous increasing competition f foreign cities. If this new creates a precedent for arbitrary imposition of spe taxes on particular sectors o this must lessen the attra London as an internati financial centre.

ERIC FAULKNER, President, British Bankers' Association, 30 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9EL.

Small business

From Mr Philip Goldenberg

Sir, Oliver Stanley "Have small businesses been let down again" (April 6) really can be allowed to mis-describe Finance Bill provisions giving relief for the so-called "business start-up scheme".

An anglicized Loi Monory moved by Richard Wainwright MP, at the standing committee stage of the Finance Bill—is ownership for all: across-the-board tax relief limited to, say, £1,000 household, for investment listed equities or unit trusts vesting primarily therein.

This arrangement serves to expand direct investment, while specific combating the unreasonableness, mentioned by Mr Stanley, of expecting small investor put all their eggs into or somewhat perilous—basket.

Small businesses would be helped by the additional funding that would then be a able for unit trusts or (be still) investment trust companies.

It really is a typical perversion of the concept ownership for all to try to it into a rich man's tax shell and Mr Stanley should not be surprised at the resultant avoidance measures concocted into the Finance Bill.

PHILIP GOLDBERG, Prospective Liberal parliamentary candidate for Woking, 2 Cherrydale, Hagen Lane, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 8NL, April 7.

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Business appointments

Chemical Bank post

Mr Michael K. O'Connell has been made a deputy managing director of Chemical Bank International.

Mr C. C. Hoyer Miller becomes an additional director of London Trust Company.

Mr Ian W. Reed is now assistant vice-president of Sentry Assurance International.

Mr Mark Dickson becomes a director of Amher Day Holdings.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Winners and losers in mail order reporting season

Freemans was the first independent mail order house to report on last year. Its profits fell 31 per cent. The Budget made an already bleak outlook appear worse, but a 8 per cent increase in agents helped secure a bigger market share.

Yesterday, the smaller Empire Stores (Bradford) admitted to a 24 per cent drop in £5.6m in profits after sales excluding value added tax rose by little more than 7 per cent, well below inflation and clothing volume fell. However, retrenching made only a mild second-half deterioration.

Like Freemans, Empire complains of public sector price inflation, and a loss on a recent cost basis explains the unchanged dividend.

The loser in terms of market share is Grattan which has been retrenching since its profits plunged in 1979. 1979-80 Grattan boosted pre-tax profits nearly £2m so that they came out at £2.2m when it changed its basis of accounting for value added tax from the "accruals" method (accounting for VAT at the date of a invoice) to the revenue basis (accounting for VAT as the cash comes in).

The Accounting Standards Committee told Grattan to change back, which flattens profits in a period of falling debtors.

Grattan has, however, cut borrowings from £33m to £14m by making once-for-all retrenchments in every direction, and this should also benefit from lower interest rates and a drop in the provision for bad debts which over-expansion pushed from 7m to £6.3m last year. Moreover, it has a 7m to £6.3m loss, and net profits this year could be bigger.

So Grattan finished last year with a 20 per cent account loss of £644,000, and it is clear how the group will find the capital needs when expansion resumes. Meanwhile early restoration of the 34 per cent dividend cut looks unlikely.

Nevertheless, neither Empire or Grattan ported as badly as feared. Grattan's profits rose 12p to 84p and Empire's by 6p to 136p.



It appears that North American buyers Buick-Royce motor cars, of which the ver Spirit (above) is the latest for those who can afford \$109,000 (£53,000), have decided that the recession is over.

This year Rolls-Royce reckons that the States sales will actually increase by 40 per cent, representing 40 per cent of total output from the Crewe works. For the first time there is a chance that the United States will exceed this year as the most important market for Rolls-Royces.

This should be good news for shareholders in the new Rolls-Royce Vickers group which is due to produce its first profits this month. Not long ago the States prospects for Rolls-Royce had dimmed.

It all accounts the merger just under a year ago has been accomplished smoothly, there seems little doubt that the 1980 come will meet expectations—which made a forecast dividend of 17.1p a share to produce a yield of 10 1/2 per cent at the shares at 167p.

I & Duffus

creases dividend

I & Duffus, a leading soft commodity dealer, has ended the year on target. Profits £23.1m are £2.5m up and suggest that company has moved off a three-year lull. Moreover, this is despite a lack of performance from cocoa trading, once profits mainstay but now accounting for less than half of profits.

rubber trading was a strong feature in the first half, but tailed off in the second, a

pattern common to commodity traders like G & D.

As a result of lower activity in some key areas group turnover fell from £711m to £629m. But changes proposed in the Budget mean that the tax charge was £7.66m compared with £8.97m. Moreover, the elimination of clawback from relief for stock appreciation has allowed £5.99m to be injected into the profit and loss account below the line. So post tax profits leapt from £18.1m to £21.4m.

On this basis earnings rose substantially to 23.2p against 17.1p a share. Emboldened by this, the final dividend is up from 5.71p gross to 6.86p gross, a 20 per cent increase to 12p for the year. With the shares up 10p to 201p last night, the yield is just under 6 per cent. Bearing in mind the slow start to 1981 in the cocoa and coffee markets, and the problems still being encountered in chemicals trading, that looks fair.

Glynwed

South Africa saves the day

One of the market's favourite high-yielders bit the dust yesterday when Glynwed cut its final dividend by more than a quarter to leave the total payment down by a fifth. But the fact that the expected profits shortfall had been confined to £2.5m for a pretax total of £16.1m was enough to fuel a 3p rise to 100 1/2p in the share price where the yield is still over 10 per cent.

The Glynwed story is still one of terrible conditions at home. Trading profits have fallen two-fifths offset by booming returns from the South African appliances operation which has lifted trading profits from £3.2m to £8.5m. Glynwed has also suffered the embarrassment of a £1m pre-tax loss and a further £1.5m below the line provision on ill-conceived Middle East contracts won by one of its smaller mechanical subsidiaries.

Like so many others in miserable steel and engineering sectors Glynwed remains a sound recovery hope, but will have to continue taking the strain for most of this year. Indeed, it may require something dramatic from South Africa to prevent a further profits fall. Meanwhile, at least gearing at around 60 per cent is being held in check and the reduced dividend is more than twice covered.

London Brick

Still tied to the building cycle

London Brick made just £3.5m in the second half of the year against £9.6m. So final profits are £10.7m against £12.7m.

Volume dipped by 17 per cent as private sector housebuilding demand dried up, only a 19 per cent price increase last April saved off the worst effects. There is now a slight seasonal upturn in private building, though the fall in interest rates was too little and too late for London Brick to hope for any real upturn before the end of the year.

Again, an April price rise, this time of 12.7 per cent will provide relief. For now the balance sheet, though less liquid, is higher stocks soaked up cash, is roughly unchanged and stocks are not rising significantly thanks to the 17 per cent cutback in capacity due to the Ridgmont closure and a four-day working week.

Meanwhile, an attempt to break free from the brick cycle through a move into prefabricated buildings went wrong producing losses which can at least be eliminated this year.

So London Brick remains grimly tied to the cycle which means it should achieve a five-day week and gently falling stocks by the end of this year, interest rates permitting. This will not produce much excitement though it should be enough to support the shares when combined with the view that building materials will be the earliest to react to the end of the recession.

Yet at 81p, up 4 1/2p yesterday, the shares yield 7.7 per cent, a discounted rating relative to the sector and one which is likely to persist after the diversification failure and the unexciting record.

Economic notebook

Hot days ahead in Gabon

It is beginning to look as if the meeting of finance ministers from industrialized and developing countries in Libreville, Gabon next month, could be a hot one. The ministers will be in Gabon for the meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank and watch over the international monetary and financial system.

Since these committees last met—during the annual conference of the IMF and World Bank in Washington in the autumn—circumstances have altered for the worse in several ways.

The 11-week oil shock. The Reagan Administration has begun cutting its aid budget and reshuffling its payments to the various aid agencies. The effect will be substantially to reduce the amount of money available to them, at least for a time, if not indefinitely. Even some of the money which has been allocated for aid purposes is now being blocked by Congress.

For some agencies, the combined action of the United States Administration and Congress could spell disaster. The International Development Association—an arm of the World Bank which lends to the very poorest countries in 50 years, virtually interest-free—is effectively broke and must turn away countries seeking loans.

It was bad enough when it was just Britain that was cutting its aid. The United States action is sending shock waves through the international financial institutions. Reagan officials have also hinted strongly that they may block the proposed energy fund, which would be run by the World Bank and make loans for Third World energy investment. The developing countries seem certain to react to all this with considerable hostility.

At the same time, fresh fears have begun to surface about the ability of the financial system to recycle the huge "petrodollar" surpluses of the oil exporting nations and the capacity of the oil-importing nations of the Third World to go on piling up debts.

The current account surplus of the oil exporting states, it is predicted, will reach \$140,000m this year and \$160,000m in 1982. The deficit of the oil-importing Third World nations now seems likely to reach \$80,000m this year (against \$70,000m in 1980) and, perhaps, rise a little further next year. Unlike the situation after the 1973-74 oil price rise, relative oil prices are not expected to decline in the coming years. On the contrary, many experts see a continuing rise in the price.

Interest rate increases

Another worrying factor is the prospect of a prolonged world recession. After the recession of 1974-75, the industrialized nations recovered strongly. Now, there is a much greater determination to pursue tight monetary and fiscal policies until inflation has been brought under control. This means that any recovery will be only slow and gradual. Growth in the industrial nations will probably be low for some years.

On top of all this, the end of cheap energy has been joined by the end of cheap money. During much of the 1970s, the interest rates on dollar loans were below world inflation levels. In other words, there was a negative real interest rate.

Inflation benefited debtors by eroding the real value of their outstanding debt. The debts of the Third World nations were a less serious problem while this process was at work. But for well over a year the cost of Eurodollar loans has exceeded the rate of inflation.

High interest rates have been used widely in the industrialized nations to bring down inflation. Prices have been falling fast on average in the

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Hard choices for the building societies

Mr Leonard Williams, chairman of the Building Societies Association and chief general manager of the Nationwide Building Society, is not particularly noted for being outspoken or controversial. Few building society managers are. But last week he made the most uncharacteristic speech of his career. He predicted the demise of the association's recommended interest rate structure—or cartel—as most people incorrectly prefer to call it.

The reverberations within the building society movement are still being felt. None of the heads of the four other leading societies—the Halifax, Abbey National, Leeds Permanent and Woolwich Equitable—share his view. All are aggrieved that there was no consultation before Mr Williams delivered his broadside, which does, after all, run counter to official BSA policy, which makes the recommended rate structure the linchpin of the industry.

To be fair to Mr Williams, there seems to be some doubt about what he said last Thursday. A report of the speech circulated by the Nationwide reads: "Mr Williams said that the building societies' interest rate 'cartel' seemed unlikely to stand up much longer under the pressure of external and internal competition."

Delegates who attended the meeting of the Yorkshire County Association of Building Societies, where Mr Williams was speaking, do not recall this particular flavour to what he said.

However, it was the précis from the Nationwide, the third largest society in the country, highlighting this element in the speech, which made the headlines, and has undoubtedly assured Mr Williams a rough passage at today's regular meeting of the council of the BSA.

He will be asked to explain, and possibly defend, his views that the cartel has, effectively, received notice to quit.

But if Mr Williams has expressed a rather extreme view, most people both within and without the building society movement would not disagree with the proposition that the building society interest rate agreement, if it is to survive at all, must be changed. At present it is little more than an afterthought of a pattern of interest rates which no longer exists.

For how can one talk of a recommended rate structure when the recommended rates are available to so few? Borrowers who live in the South-East and London area in particular have every reason to be angry every time they hear a building society leader discussing the apparent sanctity of the recommended mortgage interest rate.

It might seem that the mortgage interest rate is 13 per cent (when the latest cut comes into effect on May 1), but for half of all new borrowers this is not the case; and for those who select the Nationwide as many as 70 per cent of new borrowers will pay over the odds for their home loan.

The advent of differential interest rates for larger advances in the seventies has already totally eroded the concept of a recommended mortgage interest rate.

The investment side is little better. How can there be such a thing as a recommended investment rate when savers are now faced with such a wide variety of investment opportunities?

A check in the window of one of the larger building societies yesterday showed that the society was offering no less than 19 different rates, according to the length of the investment term and notice period.

In the industry as a whole nearly a fifth of all balances (the net amount of money which stays on the books) is now invested in other than the traditional share accounts. More of the money coming in at above the recommended rate is in term shares (locked away for two to six years), or the later variants which allow withdrawal facilities in order to attract more stable money into societies. As long as they could charge higher interest rates on large loans, the societies could fairly easily "bump" their abnormal lending and borrowing.

But that was before the clearing banks began to muscle into the mortgage market. They are now offering mortgages on larger properties at rates which are undeniably more attractive than those offered by the building societies.

It is, for example, possible to get a Scottish Life endowment-type Citibank home loan for £30,000 at an interest rate of only 14 per cent. Compare that with the rates shown in the table—charged by the big five building societies (to which another 1 per cent must be added for an endowment mortgage).

WHO PAYS THE RECOMMENDED MORTGAGE RATE?

House price	Halifax	Abbey National	Nationwide	Leeds Perm	Woolwich
to £13,000	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0
£13,000-£15,000	13.0	13.0	13.25	13.0	13.0
£15,000-£20,000	13.5	13.5	13.5 up to £17,000	13.5	13.5
			13.75 up to £19,000		
			14.0 up to £21,000		
£20,000-£25,000	14.0	14.0	14.25	14.0	14.0
£25,000-£30,000	14.5	14.5	14.75	14.5	14.5
£30,000-£35,000	14.5	15.0	15.25	15.0	14.5
£35,000-£40,000	14.5	15.0	15.25	15.5	14.5
£40,000	14.5	15.0	15.75		14.5

* by negotiation.

ing banks began to muscle into the mortgage market. They are now offering mortgages on larger properties at rates which are undeniably more attractive than those offered by the building societies.

It is, for example, possible to get a Scottish Life endowment-type Citibank home loan for £30,000 at an interest rate of only 14 per cent. Compare that with the rates shown in the table—charged by the big five building societies (to which another 1 per cent must be added for an endowment mortgage).

But any moves on the investment front immediately run into the other pressures which societies are facing on this front, notably from the National Savings movement with its index-linked savings schemes and higher interest rates on conventional savings.

If the societies cannot with conviction cut their investment rates, they equally cannot permit the differential mortgage interest rate structure to continue to make such inroads, what then?

The answer has to be higher mortgage interest rates for all. One option then for the Building Societies Association would be to fix rates which reflect the ability of the highest savers to operate on smaller margins than the rest which itself would splinter the cartel. It is arguable that the association has been too accommodating to the smaller and medium societies.

Caught in a pincer between intense National Savings competition for investments and the growing bank pressure of the lending front, it is time for the building society industry to jettison the theory that it is an homogeneous movement. It is not; yet this is what the recommended interest rate structure is intended to reflect.

Maybe Mr Williams was tactless in the way in which he brought the subject into the open. Had he talked perhaps of a switch to a "market" or "base" rate structure to replace the recommended rate system, it would have more cosmetic appeal. It would pay the way just as easily for a split in the rate structure between those societies which cannot afford more, and those which cannot but keep the illusion of solidarity which is so important to the Building Society Association.

At the same time, there is no doubt that some building society leaders are embarrassed that they are now charging high interest rates on what are only moderate loans. The average building society advance is now just under £15,000—the level at which borrowers are pushed into the "wealthy" category and asked to pay more.

For a movement which is quick off the mark to take for consideration the mortgage tax relief ceiling and the like it has

Margaret Stone

One of the world's most exclusive hotels.

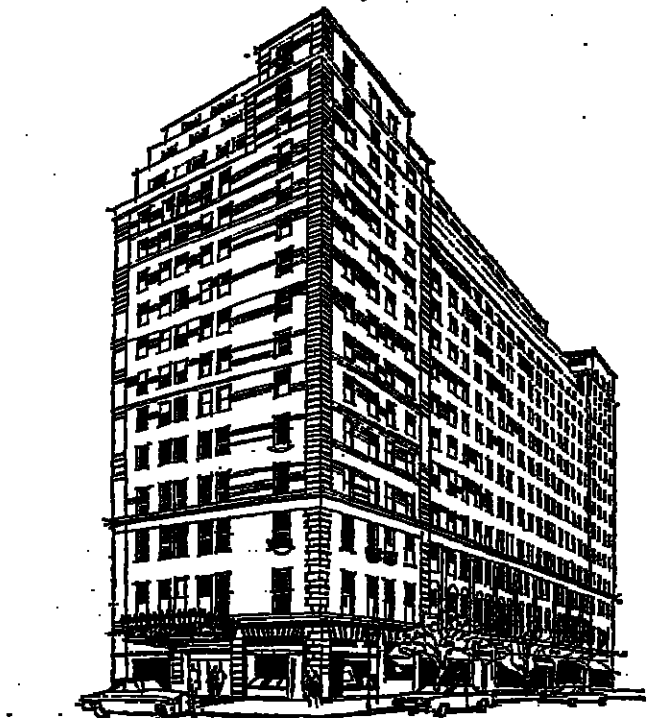
Set at the heart of Manhattan's Upper East Side, the luxurious Westbury Hotel has for over half a century been a byword for excellence and charm. Its 335 elegant rooms include pleasant studios, twin-bedded rooms, beautiful suites—all a perfect blend of continental decor and modern convenience. Five new banqueting rooms provide sumptuous settings for business and social functions of all kinds, for up to 300 people.

The internationally famous Polo Lounge and Restaurant has long been one of New York's most pleasant meeting places. The hotel is intimate and personal; an atmosphere of quiet excitement is created by the relaxing decor and courteous attention. The food is superb.

In the last three years, the entire property has undergone a \$15m dollar restoration and refurbishing programme to make the Westbury one of New York's finest hotels.

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A TRUSTHOUSE FORTIS EXCLUSIVE HOTEL

Business Diary: Henley, money and mpg • Italian saving graces

ley Administrative Staff College, which claims to be the oldest business school, is to take delivery of a brand Volvo.

his apparently unpatriotic is however, quite the reverse: the car is in part-payment of £12,000 in fees Henley get for teaching ten high- from the Swedish car-

like Jones, director of the national management school at Henley, has more reason to be pleased with new business. It is not only the first time that the Swedes bought British—it is also in the eye for the French, who having patronized the EAD school near Paris up

now. olvo chose Henley after a yping trip here in January. he Volvo executives are des- for tailor-made courses at Henley and in their own es around the world.

here the new car, a 264 bo, is headed was not so last night, whether it will necessary for the Henley us to produce a study of best it might be used. After all, principal Tom nner's favourite car just pens to be... yes, you've sed.

At the end of each year "Giovanni Rossi", the typical Italian (the equivalent of our John Smith) receives a sheet of complicated figures with his last quarter's bank statement. They are intended to show the state of his account between each transaction so that interest can be calculated.

In Italy current accounts earn interest like deposit accounts, so most people do not bother to tie their money down on deposit.

"Rossi" probably does not understand anything about the calculations except for the figure at the foot of the page, which shows the interest with which his account will be credited.

But what he has now begun to understand is that he is getting only 10 or 11 per cent gross, while inflation has been running at more than 20 per cent. What he receives net is even less, because the government takes a flat 20 per cent of the interest as tax.

As a result he has been switching his savings elsewhere, particularly into tax-free treasury bonds and certificates, where he can reckon on up to 18 per cent. This still does not provide a full hedge against inflation, but it has been worrying the banks in general and



particularly the savings banks. At a recent meeting (Taormina, of savings banks held in Giorgio Vercillo, deputy director of their association, said that while in the 1970s the money held in customers' accounts had risen steadily, early in 1980 it had started to fall. Though the trend was reversed again in the second half of the year, the total increase in savings banks accounts in 1980 was only 12.3 per cent, representing "dis-saving" in real terms.

The signs are that the trend will worsen this year, because in January alone deposits fell in nominal terms by 2 per cent. What is the answer? Vercillo

My note about the fight which the author Anthony Mockley is having with Oxford University Press over its rejection of his book on Nile Salas, spurred fellow author Peter Hill to get in touch with me.

While Mockley advertised in The Spectator for similarly aggrieved authors to contact him, Hill's revenge took the form of geying OUP in his novel The Cuban Connection, which Robert Hale published last year.

Hill, who wrote the novel under the pen name of Peter Pembroke, had an O-level English language textbook killed by OUP after a change of editor there.

In The Cuban Connection, a don called Horace Muir curses "that bunch of old women in Walton Street" after a call from a "Michael Morrow" at OUP cancelling a history of English.

There is a Michael Morrow at OUP and he is head of a department which includes textbooks on English.

Let us hope verisimilitude does not go too far. Before Muir can fashion his revenge, he is bumped off, although not. I hasten to add, by OUP. I know things are bad in the publishing business these days, but that would be taking things a little too far.

Mind you, give it another year or so...

The fast-moving chairman of the hobbling British Steel Corporation, Ian MacGregor, will be in New York next week to collect this year's Business Statesman Award made each year by the Harvard Business School Club of Greater New York.

The award is for the recipients' "significant contribution and leadership in business". Previous winners include David Rockefeller and Henry Ford II.

MacGregor is at the centre of a smouldering controversy in the United States over his role in the Standard Oil of California \$400m bid for AMAX, the American mining and metals company of which he is a director.

The Harvard award, according to one of his aides, takes the form of a "rather splendid" engraved crystal bowl. It is not a crystal ball, given the state of the steel industry these days.

How appropriate, I thought, as I passed a sign at a building site in Nine Elms, south London, yesterday. It proclaimed that the demolition contractor was an "R. Rumble".

Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Stores and oils lead way in sudden recovery

Equities bounced back into favour again yesterday supported by strong demand from institutional investors.

Jobbers expressed some surprise at the strength and suddenness of the recovery after marking prices easier at the outset in the wake of Tuesday's disappointing banking figures.

The Soviet Union's decision to give Poland more time to sort out its problems and the ending of the Warsaw Pact military manoeuvres obviously improved sentiment, but dealers were not sure that this was the sole reason for the sudden surge in demand.

Even so, with the banking figures now discounted, the market was again talking of a further cut in MLR soon and signs of an end to the recession.

Stores and oils made a strong showing and investors were also treated to a large list of trading statements that served to create further interest. New time buying, ahead of the long three week Easter account which starts on Friday, was another reason for the increased activity.

Sh-sh Wall Street opening resumed trade the FT Index was able to produce its biggest one-day rise in more than 15 months when it closed 13.6 higher at 529.4.

Although the rest of the market shrugged off Tuesday's banking figures, government securities turned in another lacklustre performance. Jobbers reported little inquiry with prices fluctuating in narrow limits as they attempted to find their new levels. In long, the list closed mostly unchanged while at the shorter end prices recovered early losses to close around 51.16 up on the day.

Leading industrials made a strong recovery. ICI jumped 12p to 254p, Beecham 5p to 182p, Unilever 13p to 521p, Fisons 5p to 155p, Hawker Siddeley 12p to 324p, British Aerospace 6p to 203p, Dunlop 2p to 65p and Bawer 8p to 253p, the last ahead of figures next week. Glaxo, also reporting next

week, was well sought after, climbing 14p to 320p.

Banks again stepped back into the limelight after the overnight counterbid of £500m by Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank for Royal Bank of Scotland. Shares of Royal Bank opened yesterday at 180p before profit taking and fears of a reference to the Monopolies Commission saw them plummet to 160p. After active two-way trade they closed at 172p—net rise on the day of 4p. Hongkong & Shanghai ended 2p better at 135p, but the original bidder, Standard Chartered, lost 5p at 662p.

This latest turn of events also sparked off renewed speculative demand for Bank of Scotland which rose 10p to 344p. Among the big four clearing banks trade was generally quiet as prices advanced in line with the rest of the market. Barclays expanded 9p to 405p, National Westminster 3p to 253p, Lloyds 7p to 345p and Midland 5p to 311p.

Electricals, still plagued by

stock shortages, saw renewed demand with sentiment helped by good figures and an encouraging statement from BICC, up 17p at 252p. Improved profits also led to a 12p rise in Lee Refrigeration at 140p. Elsewhere, GEC rose 10p to 676p, Plessey 11p to 334p and Thorn EMI 10p to 360p.

In stores, better than expected figures lifted Grattan Warehouses 14p to 84p along with Empire Stores, 6p stronger at 136p, also after figures. Peters Stores, however, recreated 8p to 110p on news of a profits set-back. Comment saw Debenhams rise 4p to a new high of 99p and buyers also came in for Woolworths, 41p dearer at 63p.

Among the long list of companies reporting, favourable trading news helped Dowling & Mills 1p to 25p, North Atlantic Securities 1p to 127p, British Dredging 4p to 26p, Christie International 2p to 232p, Gill & Duffus 11p to 201p, S. Jerome 11p to 105p and Portals 10p to 458p.

But the market was not so pleased with figures from Dorada, down 3p at 32p, or Royal Worcester, 2p lighter at 268p.

Engineering shares returned to favour with GKN 3p higher at 146p and Glywed 3p higher at 100 1/2p after figures. Trading statements lifted Aurora

Bid favourite MDW Holdings was the subject of further speculation yesterday as shares gained 8p to 99p. Shares have risen 12p in the last month but directors firmly deny that they have had any approaches or talks.

4p to 34p, and Greenbank Industrial 5p to 27p, while Scotland Engineering held steady at 24p. Only Bifurcated Engineering failed to capitalize, dipping 2p to 31p. Other bright spots included Haden Carrier, 10p up at 27p, and R. Cartwright, 4p higher at 42p.

Higgs & Hill celebrated a return to profits with a 14p rise to 120p, and London Brick

made ground with a 4 1/2p increase to 81p after figures. Blue Circle managed a 2p increase to 414p and speculative attention helped IDC to a 7p bonus at 87p.

British Sugar, still fighting off the advances of S. & W. Berisford, was 8p heavier at 311p in expectation of an announcement from Berisford later in the week. London Shop Property remained calm at 135p after its £4.9m cash call to shareholders, while Harrison & Crossfield leapt 36p to 850p excited by a Kuwaiti purchase at 10 per cent.

Meanwhile, holiday shares continued to show relief at the Chancellor's decision not to levy an increased VAT claim on package tours. Saga rallied 5p to 315p and Horizon Travel 15p

Oils returned to favour again yesterday with institutional support in a thin market pushing prices steadily higher. Burmah, with figures next week, saw heavy new time demand as the shares rebounded 6p to 156p. KCA International, giving further consideration to recent figures, advanced 4p to 186p.

Premier was another bright spot, improving 4 1/2p to 84p after the latest drilling report from its Warradong project in Australia. BP hardened 14p to 376p, Shell 14p to 362p, Ultramar 11p to 270p, and Esso 54p and Tricontrol 8p to 270p.

Equity turnover for April 7 was £148,402m (bargains 22,105). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Royal Bank of Scotland, Horizon Travel, Burnham, MDW Holdings, Boverat, GEC and Lee Refrigeration.

Traditional options: Dealers reported moderate activity yesterday. Calls were made in Rothmans International at 81p, South Pacific Properties at 14p and First National Finance at 31p. Puts were arranged in GKN and Royal Bank of Scotland, and doubles in ICL and Shell.

Traded options: A total of 1,097 contracts was recorded. Brookes Bond Liebig attracted six, and C. ICI 159, Lasso 18 and Rascal 33.

Aurora hints at upturn after £2m decline in profits

By Our Financial Staff

Aurora Holdings, the steel and engineering combine put together by Mr Robert Ackman, hinted at an upturn from the depths of the recession yesterday. It was enough to add 4p to the shares to take them to 34p compared with their all-time low of 19p earlier this year.

The group said there had been "some signs of a slight improvement in inquiries and order intake", but added that it would be too late for the current year.

In the year to December, Aurora saw a decline in pretax profits from £3.8m to £1.8m in turnover from £103.5m to £136.4m, though this was entirely due to the inclusion of Edgar Allen Balfour, acquired in 1979, for a full year. The final dividend of 2.2p was paid as the payment for the year.

Below the line an extraordinary item of £5.6m relates to the cost of slimming the workforce from 7,500 to 5,360. To pay for this Aurora dipped into reserves for some £4.1m, leaving an attributable loss of £1.1m. This cut shareholders' funds from £26.8m to £21.7m, though borrowings of £5m to leave earnings unchanged at 100 per cent, including the preference capital of £8.7m.

The group suffered during the year from the familiar recessionary problems and from interest rates—interest charges took a £6.4m bite out of profits against £3.8m last year. At the trading level profits were up from £2.6m to £8.2m.

The bright spots were Canada and Australia, the latter producing £1m pretax.

Commenting on the slimming process, Mr Ackman said it was probably largely over, though there could be some further disposals.

Christies ahead for year, but margins tighten

By Our Financial Staff

Christies International, the auction house, saw pretax profits rise by 16.4 per cent to £7.04m in 1980, on group turnover of £31m, up from £24.8m in 1979.

Dividends have risen virtually in line with profits to 10p gross for the year to December 31. Some £162m worth of goods passed through the company's auction rooms in 1980, 29 per cent more in value terms than in 1979. However, increasing competition, mainly with Sotheby Parke Bernet, inflation and a strong pound trimmed margins. The New York saleroom did well, with auction sales of £130m against £70m in 1979.

And has now more than covered its start-up costs. The outlook there and in London and

Geneva remains good, the group said.

A new salesroom opens in Amsterdam this autumn, for a capital outlay of £1m. The Rome salesroom is being re-organized after a poor start.

Net interest received last year rose from £661,000 to £222,000 but exchange losses increased from £106,000 to £395,000. An extraordinary debit of £114,000 reflects the £257,000 premium paid in the £750,000 purchase of the 50 per cent share in Robert Lowe, and a £143,000 deferred tax credit on stock appreciation relief.

Mr John Floyd, the chairman, said that though international business were buoyant, rising competition meant 1981 profits growth could be lower than in 1980.

Second-half fall at Royal Worcester

By Margaret Pagano

Royal Worcester, the china to electronics group, dropped back to its 1979 profits pattern of recent years with full-year profits lower by 16 per cent at £3.16m.

Sales rose slightly to £4.1m from £3.6m last year, with profits moved up by 34p to £3.6m. The final dividend unchanged at 8.14p, making a total payment of 12.2p gross for the year January 3.

Profits and sales were up at the halfway stage but decline in consumer demand severely reduced orders for the group's companies in July onwards. Second profits were well down on first lower orders have been in this year.

Operating profits at We Electronics were static at £1m on sales £2m ahead at £1. The moratorium on dividend spending, destocking and positive prices combined to reduce overall margins. But division is off the bottom recovery expected in the second half of this year.

Spode, the fine china porcelain company, saw on ing profits decline by £20 to £2.3m on sales slimmer £24.9m. The parent, a consumer demand in United States, a big market china products, also hit. Redundancies have been in this division and short working is in force at plants.

Modest advance at Senior after strong first half

Senior Engineering was able to keep up the 25 per cent pretax profit advance of first half, but finished with profits fractionally above the previous year.

Pretax profits were £5.06m on sales £10m high £70.5m. The final dividend is unchanged, making a total for the year 2.14p gross.

Trading profits rose to £5.1m but were hit by an extraordinary debit of £299,000 for redundancy costs. The final dividend of £628,000 represents the £500,000 loan for the £5 US Boiler Tube Corporation acquisition in 1979. Full figures are included. Sales overseas subsidiaries £9.3m and trading profits to £334,000 against £248,000.

The recession hit the four trading divisions May onwards. Demand pressure on margins both particularly bad in the quarter, Professor R. Smith, the chairman, said.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank 12
Barclays 12
BCCI 12
Consolidated Crds 12
C. Hoare & Co. 12
Lloyds Bank 12
Midland Bank 12
Nat Westminster 12
TSB 12
Williams and Glyn's 12

* 7 day deposit on sum of £10,000 or more
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BICC 1980 Results and Final Dividend

PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION up 14% to £74.6 million due to continuing advances in cable-making performance worldwide.

EXPORTS increased by 28% to £243.5 million.

FINANCIAL POSITION improved further with borrowings reduced from 46% to 35% of shareholders' funds.

EARNINGS PER SHARE up 29% to 23.6p.

DIVIDENDS increased by 10% to 9.43p per share.

CURRENT COST earnings per share at 13.7p cover dividend cost 1.5 times.

OUTLOOK—despite the uncertain economic conditions in the UK, the relative strength of the Group and in particular its overseas spread and export markets should enable it to continue to make satisfactory progress.

Group results for the year ended 31 December

	1980 £m	1979 £m
HISTORIC COST BASIS		
Sales	1364.8	1189.9
Operating profit	86.6	76.8
Finance charges	12.0	11.2
Profit before taxation	74.6	65.6
Taxation	28.6	28.4
Profit after taxation	46.0	37.2
Minority interests	9.8	9.8
Attributable profit	36.2	27.4
CURRENT COST BASIS		
Profit before taxation	55.1	31.0
Attributable profit	21.1	6.6
EARNINGS PER SHARE	p	p
Historic cost basis	23.6	18.3
Current cost basis	13.7	4.4
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE	9.43	8.57

The final ordinary dividend of 6.40p per share (1979: 5.82p per share) will, if approved, be paid to ordinary shareholders registered in the books of the Company on 22 May 1981. Warrants will be posted on 29 June 1981, payable 1 July 1981.

The complete press release is available from the Secretary, BICC Limited, PO Box No. 5, 21 Bloomsbury Street, WC1B 3ON.

The 1980 annual report will be posted to share and loan stock holders on 30 April 1981.

The annual general meeting will be held at 21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B, on 28 May 1981 at 12 noon.

BICC Cable-makers in U.K. and overseas
Civil, electrical and mechanical engineering and construction worldwide
Manufacturers of electrical and electronic components

Overseas strength lifts Portals

By Our Financial Staff

Portals Holdings, the Hampshire water treatment group and banknote supplier, increased its pretax profits by 9.4 per cent to £12m in 1980 with the help of flourishing overseas trade.

In Britain, demand fell steeply but total group orders ended the year to December 31 on a strong note, Mr John Sheffield, the chairman, said.

The dividend has been raised by 11.4 per cent to 17.5p gross. Group turnover rose by a quarter to £126.5m. Water treatment and engineering remain the group's largest businesses, with sales of £96m against £76m, but suffered

worst from the collapse here, where demand was nearly halved, and profits advanced by only 3.5 per cent to £5.3m.

Local authority demand for portable water plant fell particularly severely. Overseas, high sterling reduced margins.

Substantial orders from Nigeria and good Middle Eastern demand helped to make up the division's shortfall in United Kingdom orders.

Overseas sales rose by 11.4 per cent to £35.3m. Group turnover rose by a quarter to £126.5m. Water treatment and engineering remain the group's largest businesses, with sales of £96m against £76m, but suffered

paper for currency and other high-security uses.

The new United States papermill is due to open in mid-1982, and until then the interest costs on the £12m borrowed to build it will be capitalised.

Portals' small property side contributed £1.03m, against £960,000. There was no group debt at December 31, but the £8.75m convertible rights issue made in January now has to be repaid as will the United States loan next year.

Looking ahead, the group sees little sign of change in Britain yet, but hopes for some improvement in the second half of 1981.

Higgs and Hill results boost shares

By Our Financial Staff

Shares of building group Higgs and Hill jumped 14p to a new high of 120p yesterday after results showing a recovery from losses of £908,000 to pretax profits of £2.1m, and a dividend increase of nearly 25 per cent to 6.86p gross for the year to December 31.

Last autumn Higgs and Hill beat off a £10m bid approach from cables group BICC, worth 110p a share.

Last year's recovery largely reflects the absence of provision on contracts—in 1979 the group set aside £2.5m from trading profits against a civil engineering project in Trinidad on which it still has claims outstanding—and the absence of loss-making businesses.

The group is now concentrating on construction.

Briefly

Walker & Homer: Turnover for half-year to 31.12.1980, £3.36m (£3.51m). Pretax profit, £42,000 (against loss of £169,000 for half-year to January 31, 1980 and loss of £620,000 for full year, 1979-80). Group losses remain profitable in second half-year.

Habitat Design Holdings: Net sales for 26 weeks to January 11, 1981, £20.51m. Pretax profit, £2.29m (£2.78m). Chairman regards prospects to be "remarkably good" in the circumstances.

Kuo Estates: Warren Plantation Holding has disposed of its entire holding in company, 140,500 shares (10.36 per cent).

Peter Stores: Sales for half-year to December 27, £5.58m (£4.5m). Pretax profit £166,000 (£172,000). Eps 3.0p (15.8p). Interim held at 2.14p gross. Group does not expect remainder of year to continue at this reduced level.

Yorkshire Chemicals: Turnover for 1980 totalled £21.52m (£24.57m). Pretax loss £80,000 (profit £96,000). Loss per share 7.3p (earnings 2.7p). No dividend proposed for year (14.84p net last year).

Amax and Socal the second time around

By Our Financial Staff

What is going on between Amax and Socal? There are uncanny resemblances between this latest bid—if it should be called that—by Socal for Amax and the attempt in 1979. On both occasions the oil company has been repulsed by the Amax board because the price is supposed to be too low, and on both occasions the Socal board seems to have retired without firing another shot.

The Amax position is predictable. Socal is offering this time about \$4,000m (£1.818m) in total or up to \$86 an Amax share, twice the 1979 bid. Amax says this is too cheap. There are two reasons for adopting that position. One is that Amax's assets are understated.

As the result of heavy investment throughout the 1970s the American mining plant has huge untapped resources which New York analysts value at as much as \$10,000m.

Amax has taken the strategic view that natural resources—whether metals or fuels—are bound to appreciate in real terms over the next two decades.

The second line of defence for Amax is its earnings record. Net earnings have soared from \$52m in 1971 to \$470m last year and earnings per share from \$1.33 to \$7.48. This is one of the best records among mining companies.

But the chink in the armour is that this year will not be so good. Amax is at pains to

Mining

stress that 1981 will be an excellent year.

What this means in dollars is that the outcome will fall between 1979's \$365m net earnings and 1980's \$470m. That said, profits have dropped before, as in 1977. Then they were \$66m compared with \$149m the year before.

But it is now proposed to inject the 25 per cent holding in Mount Newman, the rich Western Australia iron ore deposit, and Amax's other assets, mainly of an exploratory nature, into a new company.

Whether one adopts the cynical view that Amax is trying to talk up its share price in the face of the Socal bid, or that the Australian restructuring is sensible and a fair recognition of the company's potential, Socal's behaviour remains difficult to understand.

Why should Socal worry whether the bid is friendly? Will the Amax directors and executives desert en masse if it succeeds? Or does Socal feel that \$100 a share, a possible knock-out blow, will be seen by its shareholders as too much?

It would help everybody if the oil company made its intentions clear.

Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

BICC up 14pc as exports improve

A substantial rise in exports and improved productivity in the United Kingdom led to a 14 per cent profits increase to £74.6m at BICC, the cable and construction group, last year.

Sir Raymond Pennock, chairman, said that the 1980 figure was achieved despite a 59m adverse swing in copper prices. The figures also took account of heavy redundancy costs.

A final dividend of 9.14p gross takes the total for the year up by 10 per cent to 13.47p gross.

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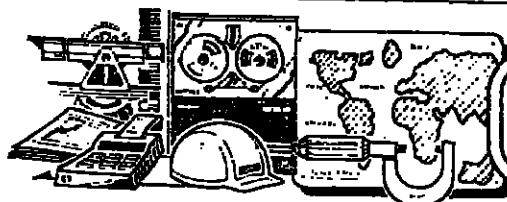
The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81	1979-80	Company	Price	Change	Div.	Yld	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	73	+1	4.7	6.4	6.6
30	21	Armistage & Rhodes	49	—	1.4	2.9	20.2
192	52	Bardon Hill	190	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	97	—	3.5	5.7	4.3
126	83	Frank Horsell	104	—	6.4	6.2	3.3
110	39	Frederick Parker	51	—	1.7	3.3	2.2
110	69	George Blair	69	—	3.1	5.5	—
124	103	Jackson Group	107	—	6.9	6.4	4.0
334	244	James Burrough	119	—	7.9	6.6	9.8
35	30	Robert Jenkins	320	—	31.3	9.3	—
224	209	Sorclay Limited	209	—	15.1	7.2	3.6
23	8	Twinklford Ord	101	+	—	—	—
90	69	Twinklford 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
36	35	Unilock Holdings	45	—	3.0	6.6	6.9
103	81	Walter Alexander	101	—	5.7	5.6	5.6
263	181	W. S. Yeates	254xd	—	13.1	5.2	

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, March 30. Dealings End, April 9. § Contango Day, April 10. Settlement Day, April 21
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous day

مكتبة الأ...



Recruitment Opportunities



Engineers Overseas Appointments ***Accountancy*** Finance ***Sales*** Overseas Appointments ***Accountancy*** Finance ***Sales*** Marketing ***General*** Computing ***Management & Executive Appointments***

BOEHRINGER
MANNHEIM
—
ein führendes
Unternehmen
der forschenden
pharmazeutischen
Industrie

sucht

Mediziner/ Naturwissenschaftler (MD/Ph.D.)

Sie sind jung, kontaktfreudig und suchen eine Aufgabe mit internationalem Aktionsradius.

Dann sollten Sie diese Chance nutzen und sich über die Möglichkeiten informieren, die Ihnen bei der Durchführung

KLINISCHER STUDIEN

innerhalb unserer Unternehmensgruppe offenstehen.

Nehmen Sie eine faszinierende Herausforderung

• In unserem medizinischen Forschungszentrum als Gesprächspartner mit führenden Kliniken und Forschungsinstituten im In- und Ausland bei Planung und Durchführung von Projekten auf dem Gebiet der antibakteriellen Chemotherapie, der Antikörper und der Immunmodulation oder

• im medizinisch-wissenschaftlichen Marketingbereich als Gesprächspartner unserer Organisationen in Übersee mit dem Schwerpunkt klinischer Prüfungen

der Phase III und postmarketing surveillance internationaler Produkte an.

Wir sind sicher, daß Sie diese vielseitigen Aufgaben, die viel Eigeninitiative und kreatives Denken erfordern, reizen. Von Vorteil ist es, wenn Sie bereits über entsprechende Erfahrungen verfügen und deutsche Sprachkenntnisse besitzen.

Einkommen und soziale Leistungen, wozu auch die Übersiedlungskosten in die Bundesrepublik Deutschland gehören, werden der Aufgabenstellung entsprechen.

Damen und Herren, die sich angesprochen fühlen und im Besitze eines britischen Passes sind, der zur Arbeitsaufnahme innerhalb der Staaten der EG berechtigt, bitten wir um Ihre Bewerbung mit tabellarischem Lebenslauf, Lichtbild und Unterlagen über Ihren bisherigen beruflichen Werdegang. Teilen Sie uns bitte gleichzeitig mit, welcher der beiden Aufgabenstellungen Ihr besonderes Interesse gilt.



Boehringer Mannheim GmbH
Bereich Personal/P-AT
Postfach 310120
D-6800 Mannheim 31
Kennwort: Klinische Studien

Public Lending Right an opportunity to establish and run a new administrative unit

The scheme for Public Lending Right (which will be subject to Parliamentary approval), will enable authors to receive payments in respect of loans of their books from public libraries, from the financial year 1982/3. The Registrar will be responsible for the introduction of PLR and for establishing an office unit at Stockton-on-Tees to administer the scheme. This will involve the recruitment and training of staff, the arrangement of data processing samples, systems and facilities, setting up the author registration programme and dealing with legal and other problems.

The requirement is for a man or woman of proven administrative ability and preferably aged over 30, who can plan the unit's development, co-ordinate the contributions of participating library authorities and negotiate

with representatives of all interested parties, including authors and publishers. Considerable energy, commitment and personal involvement will be necessary and applicants must also be adept at staff management.

This appointment is initially for 5 years but it may be extended or made permanent.

SALARY (under review): £10,800-£14,000. Starting salary within the range according to qualifications and experience. The post is pensionable.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 1 May 1981), write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours).

Please quote ref.: G/5513/2.

COMPANY SECRETARY

London

Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust is the UK's largest provider of independent acute medical and surgical facilities with 30 hospitals in England and Scotland and two more nearing completion. It is a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity.

The Company Secretary, besides fulfilling the normal statutory requirements of the job, is a key member of the General Management team, contributing to a wide range of policy-making and administrative activities. To succeed the present incumbent we are seeking someone who can bring to the organisation a high level of professional expertise combined with the sound senior management experience and mature judgement essential to an appointment at this level.

Candidates should be Chartered Secretaries or

have an equivalent qualification. Experience with a charity and/or a hospital organisation would be an added advantage but will not take preference over proven management ability. Commencing salary will be commensurate with the considerable responsibilities of the appointment. A car will be provided and available benefits include free life insurance, an excellent contributory pension scheme, BUPA membership and subsidised mortgage facilities. Please apply in confidence, enclosing a full curriculum vitae, to the General Manager, Mr O. J. Rowell, Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust, Aldwych House, 71-91 Aldwych, London WC2B 4EE. No reference will be made to present or past employers without the applicant's prior approval.

Financial Manager

Wanted for large Architectural Practice. M/F. Applicants must have related qualifications and experience.

The position offers a high degree of responsibility and a salary of £12,000 p.a. Please reply to Box No. 2929 F, The Times

INTERNATIONAL COURIER COMPANY

require

self-motivated person to join newly formed European Marketing Division, involving considerable European travel. Minimum 1 year sales experience. Marketing experience an advantage. Salary £6,000 negotiable. Please apply in writing with full c.v. to Hilary Jenner, World Courier (U.K.) Ltd., Lading House, 10-14 Bedford Street, London, WC2E 9BE.

India Office Library and Records Archivists

Two posts in the European Manuscripts section involving the administration and development of a growing collection of private papers, mainly relating to the history of the British connection with South Asia from the 17th century onwards.

The senior post (Curator Grade D) involves responsibility for listing and conservation work, organising a sound archives collection and dealing with public enquiries. Several years' experience in a record office or similar establishment is essential and a knowledge of South Asian history highly desirable. Candidates should normally be aged at least 26.

The other post (Curator E or F) is concerned mainly with listing and accessioning private papers and assisting with public enquiries. At least one year's experience in a record office or similar establishment and an interest in South Asia advantageous. Candidates for both posts should normally have a degree in an appropriate subject with a sound knowledge of archival practice, preferably with a diploma in archive studies.

SALARY (under review): As Curator Grade D, £9,090-£11,515; Curator Grade E, £7,615-£9,570; or Curator Grade F, £5,915-£7,760. Starting salary and level of appointment according to age, qualifications and experience. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 7th May 1981), write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote Ref.: G(9)382.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

SENIOR POSITION AVAILABLE FOR SHOPPING CENTRE MANAGER

A prestige new precinct in Sutton, Surrey, Duxes, initially will be to liaise on behalf of developers with tenants and contractors to familiarise himself/herself with the management systems built into the scheme. This phase will be from June to October, 1981.

From the opening date the manager will be responsible in full for the total operation of the centre including the operation of the tenants and managing agent, security, cleaning and related supervision.

The likely candidate will probably have a background in a construction related industry and will have had experience of dealing with employees and clients. Whilst not essential some retail experience might be an advantage.

The hours will initially be those of the contractors working on site and will be further negotiated prior to the opening date.

A good initial basic salary plus benefits is available.

Your application should be in writing and detail in full your educational qualifications, working history to date giving dates and any other information which you may consider useful in assessment for interviews. Interviews to be held in late April. State also salary required.

Apply to:

B. MORRIS
COMPANY SECRETARY
KF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE LTD
19 CROOKLOG
BEXLEYHEATH
KENT DA6 8BW

This vacancy is open to both male & female applicants.



Assistant Information Officer

Required by the Publications Division of the CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION in London SE1, for the Production and Distribution Reading Section.

Applicants will be required to check proofs at all stages of production to exacting standards. He/she should be fully trained and experienced as a reader for printers or publishers. Ability to read foreign languages against original copy and to mark up copy for style will be an advantage.

Salary is on a scale which rises to £7,761 (to be reviewed). Please send a postcard for an application form to Central Office of Information, Atlantic House, Room 59, Floor 1, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2PD quoting reference number COI/PD/44. Closing date for completed forms is 1 May 1981.

DIRECTOR

£14,000-£15,000 + car

The Sutton (Hastoe) Housing Association Limited, which is currently managed by a national housing trust, is to establish its own management team and is seeking applications for the post of Director and Secretary. A person is required with broad management and development knowledge combined with creative ability, drive and entrepreneurial skills. Must have a personality to inspire staff to be responsible for the implementation of the Committee's policy for the management and development of the Association including the promotion of new housing initiatives. The post will be based at Twickenham and a weighting allowance of £483 per annum will be payable in addition to salary. For further details and application form please write to the Secretary, Sutton Court, Tring, Hertfordshire, HP23 5BB.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Can you communicate?

with committees? With the press? With a business community? Proven ability in writing and research will be expected of candidates for this post which would suit a history or economics graduate. Qualifications are less important than personality and the ability to deal with a varied work load involving administration and the promotion of an active programme of events. Trade association, W.I. area. Salary c. £7,000. Applications enclosing c.v. to Box 2930 F, The Times.

Director of Personnel BBC

A successor is sought to Mr Michael Bett who is joining British Telecom.

• THE DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL as a member of the Board of Management is responsible for the development of corporate personnel policies and the provision of a wide range of central employee and administrative services. The Corporation has a staff of about 27,000.

• SALARY by negotiation.

Those who are of requisite professional standing and wish to be considered are invited to write in confidence to R. T. Addis.

TYZACK & PARTNERS LTD

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

10 HALLAM STREET LONDON W1N 6DJ
21 AINSIE PLACE and EDINBURGH EH3 6AJ

Director of Finance

This is a new post created as a result of structural changes necessitated by the growth of the Rcn. It involves financial planning, the development of sophisticated financial information systems and the control of the Finance Department. The Rcn is currently in the process of introducing an in-house computer which, initially, will service the Finance Department and the Records Department (180,000 members). When the system is operative, the Director of Finance will assume control of the Computer Department and the Records Department both of which are based in Cardiff.

Applications are invited from Chartered Accountants who have experience in financial planning and in computer operation. Proven management ability is also required.

The Director of Finance will be a member of the Rcn's top management team. A capacity to identify with the role of the Rcn as the professional organisation and trade union for nurses is therefore essential.

The post is London based, salary will be within a scale of £16,500 to £19,500 plus £1,016 London Weighting, and there is a contributory pension scheme. Further information and an application form may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, The Royal College of Nursing, Henrietta Place, London W1M 0AB. Closing date for return of forms 5th May 1981.

Rcn Royal College of Nursing

CONFEDERATION OF EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE (C.E.A.)

C.E.A., with its headquarters at Rue de la Paix, 10, Paris, is seeking a Secretary-General to take post in autumn 1981. Candidates, minimum age 35, should be skilled administrators, trilingual (English, French, German), dynamic and imaginative. They should also have experience of international relations and have good contacts. Applications, stating salary expectations, should be sent with curriculum vitae, photographs and references to Mr. M. Souplet, President, C.E.A., FASIA, 8 av. Marceau, F-75008, Paris.

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

required for a Japanese stockbroker company in the City. A bright, reliable person, aged 21+, with basic accounting skills. Various duties include general ledger journals, and typing would be useful. Salary £4,500-£5,000.

Please contact Miss Fukushima on 01-606 7382.

FURNISHED LETTINGS NEGOTIATOR

Preferably experienced for busy rental department. Excellent opportunities for someone personable and self-motivated. Car driver essential.

Ring Madeleine White on 537 9222 or write MARSH AND PARSONS 5 KENSINGTON COURT ST LONDON W8

TOP CLASS DENTAL CERAMIST

required. Salary commensurate with position. Apply the Limerick Dental Co., Limerick Place, Upper Henry St, Limerick, Tel: Limerick 40337

MANAGER/ SHAREHOLDER (M/F)

Primary Italian non-profit childcare industry will establish London-based commercial distribution company and seek manager/shareholder experienced in the wholesale of household goods. Please write to: Madalena La Loggia Via Principe Amedeo, 14, 20100 Milano, Italy

WANTED FOR GERMANY. Plaster and construction engineers based in Düsseldorf or Frankfurt area. Replies to: Entscherteing, Tullastraße, Wuppertal, 14, 5100 Aachen, Germany.

Director MRC Laboratory Animals Centre

The Medical Research Council invites applications for the post of Director of the MRC Laboratory Animals Centre, Carshalton, Surrey. The Centre has some 70 staff engaged in service work and in research. The Director will be responsible for the overall management and to lead a research team whose programme could either develop one of the existing interests of the Centre or introduce new work. Ideally both relevant to the purposes of the Centre and complementary to the programmes of the Council's Toxicology Unit (Director: Dr T. A. Connors), which shares the Carshalton site with the Centre.

The salary offered will be equivalent to that of a University professor. Anyone who wishes to be considered for the post should submit a detailed curriculum vitae and a list of publications together with an outline proposal for a research programme. The names of referees are not required. This post is open to applicants of either sex.

Applications should be addressed to Dr Eric Bennett, Medical Research Council, 20 Park Crescent, London W1H 4AL, from whom further information may be obtained. (Telephone: 01-266 5422). The closing date for receipt of applications is 18 May.

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND

Established Scientific Post Tumour Immunology Unit

Cellular/molecular immunologist required for the ICRF Tumour Immunology Unit at University College London (Hon Director: Professor N. A. Mitchinson). The work of the Unit involves a programme of laboratory based research into immunological mechanisms relevant to cancer.

The appointee will be expected to pursue an active research programme and to lead his/her own research group within the Unit. The successful candidate is expected to have made major contributions to immunological research, and proven ability to supervise the work of other scientists is essential.

The appointment will carry tenure and honorary academic status. Salary, according to qualifications and experience, will be in the post's non-clinical Senior Grade range £11,165 to £13,980, or the Special Appointments Grade range from £14,275, plus London Allowance at 1967 a year.

Applications with full curriculum vitae and names and addresses of three referees should be sent to Professor N. A. Mitchinson, ICRF Tumour Immunology Unit, Department of Zoology, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, from whom further information can be obtained. Applications should be received before 9th May 1981.

EASTBOURNE COLLEGE BURSAR & CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Applications are invited for the resident post of BURSAR & CLERK TO THE COUNCIL of Eastbourne College which will become vacant on the retirement of the present Bursar on 31st December 1981. Starting salary will be according to qualifications and experience; but not less than £10,000 per annum, plus accommodation. The post is pensionable. Applicants should preferably be between 35 and 45 and should be experienced in financial administration. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Mr C. G. B. L. H. Alder, M.B.E., Eastbourne College, Marlborough House, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 4JY, to whom applications should be addressed to arrive not later than 15th May 1981.

Recruitment Opportunities also on page 24

GENERAL MANAGER

We are an established and expanding company in the Electronics and Technical Publications industry, employing over 200 people in Surrey and the Midlands.

We are currently seeking a Senior Executive to co-ordinate, control and direct the existing management team and to plan the company's future expansion.

The candidate should preferably be under 45 years of age, educated to degree level and a qualified electronics engineer.

He/she will be responsible directly to the Managing Director. An attractive remuneration package will be offered.

Apply in writing with c.v. to: Managing Director, Dyteca Limited, Roebuck Road, Chessington, Surrey, K29 1LN

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Rich Law, Poor Law; 7.05 The Imperial Roman Army; 7.30 Crystals. News and weather forecast.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Thalidomide victim Ronnie West attempts to drop by parachute on to Poole Harbour; 1.45 See-Saw. Close-down at 2.00.
2.25 Claire Rayner's Casebook: How bereavement, divorce and marital stress changes people's lives (r).
3.55 Play School: James Blades's story, Jake the Lumberjack, told by the author; 4.20 The Perils of Penelope Pitstop: cartoon.
4.40 Heidi: Episode 18 of this story of a Swiss orphan girl.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround.
5.10 Blue Peter: the children's magazine. Sarah Greene visits the school for tin miners at Redruth.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Conceptual models in Strategy; 7.05 The Gambler, Dostoevsky; 7.30 Maths: numerical methods. Close-down at 7.55.
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55 (Jake the Lumberjack).
2.15 pm International Snooker: The third day's play in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship, from Sheffield. Steve Davis plays John Vargo and John Spencer plays Bill Werbeniuk. Further coverage on BBC 2 at 6.55, 10.20 and 11.30.
5.15 Open University: Air traffic control; 5.40 The Mindful Way; 6.05 Science and belief; Fontenelle; 6.30 Analysing social interaction.

Thames

9.30 Super Spy: Film about the German who was adopted by the United States and then became head of West German intelligence (r). 9.55 The New Accelerators: Film about the motor industry.
10.20 Young Ramsay: Aborigine legend versus livestock virus.
11.10 Wild Canada: film about the caribou.
12.00 Gideon: The duckling with the voice of Tim Brooke-Taylor. The duckling who was adopted by the United States and then became head of West German intelligence (r). 9.55 The New Accelerators: Film about the motor industry.
10.20 Young Ramsay: Aborigine legend versus livestock virus.
11.10 Wild Canada: film about the caribou.
12.00 Gideon: The duckling with the voice of Tim Brooke-Taylor.

1.00 News. 1.30 Thames News. 1.30 Take the High Road: News.

BBC 1

5.40 News with Peter Woods; 5.55 Regional news magazines. Nationwide at 6.20. Sally Hardcastle reports from Broadmoor. Frank Bough from Gilgich Goch, in South Wales. 6.55 Tomorrow's World: The 6.55 shuttle suit nobody will see unless something goes wrong. And a survival suit for ice-cold waters.
7.20 Top of the Pops with Mike Read.
8.00 Are You Being Served? New series of comedies about the staff of a department store. A career caused by a rare tropical disease. Largely the same old cast. (See Personal Choice).
8.30 Sorry! The Ronnie Corbett comedy series. Tonight, vain attempts to see Gine with the Wind.
9.00 News with Kenneth Kendall.
9.25 A Spy at Evening: Part 2 of this thriller about dangerous extremists on both left and right. The investigations into

BBC 2

6.55 International Snooker: Frame of the Day in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship. 7.20 News: With sub-titles for the hard of hearing. 7.30 George Cukor, Film Director: Extracts from an interview with the veteran Hollywood director. Now over 60 he begins work on a new film, Secret Affairs, later this year. The interviewer is John Gillett. (See Personal Choice).
7.30 Search of... William the Conqueror: The last in Michael Wood's invigorating series about Dark Ages figures. Tonight, what exactly happened in 1066 — and why did it happen?
9.00 Wall Street Crash: This musical group (two girls, five boys) who gave a good account

BBC 1

of themselves in last year's Royal Variety Performance, appear in their first TV show. 12.15 Man About Town: The Nicest People I Know Have Had VD: Michael Dean goes to clinics where the battle against venereal disease is being fought. He talks to victims and to doctors. (See Personal Choice).
10.20 International Snooker: More from the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship. Cliff Thorburn, 12.15 am champion, goes into action.
10.45 Newsnight: News bulletins and analysis of the day's most important happenings.
11.00 International Snooker: Highlights from tonight's play in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship. Ends at 12.15 am.

BBC 1

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 News. 7.00-8.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 The Way of the World of Peter Simon. 9.30 The Living World. 10.00 News. 10.05 Emmerdale. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: A Scent of Lilac, by Mair McLellan. 11.00 News. 11.05 File on 4. 12.00 News. 12.05 Enquire Within. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.55 In Reply: Political Broadcast (Labour). 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 The Archers. 2.02 Women's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.05 Play: Family, by Robert Davis. 3.15 The Archers. 4.15 Bookshelf. 4.45 Greenwich '73. 4.55 News. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.30 Answers? 6.55 It's a Bargain. 7.00 News. 7.10 News. 7.20 Time for Verse. 7.30 Records: Mozart, Pergolesi. 7.45 A Sideswift Look. 7.50 Records: Vaughan Williams. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.05 A Little Place off the Edge: Road, by Graham Greene. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.50 News. 12.15 am-12.35 Shipping forecast.

BBC 2

6.00 News. 6.30 Answers? 6.55 It's a Bargain. 7.00 News. 7.10 News. 7.20 Time for Verse. 7.30 Records: Mozart, Pergolesi. 7.45 A Sideswift Look. 7.50 Records: Vaughan Williams. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.05 A Little Place off the Edge: Road, by Graham Greene. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.50 News. 12.15 am-12.35 Shipping forecast.

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Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 News. 7.00-8.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Headlines. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 The Way of the World of Peter Simon. 9.30 The Living World. 10.00 News. 10.05 Emmerdale. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story: A Scent of Lilac, by Mair McLellan. 11.00 News. 11.05 File on 4. 12.00 News. 12.05 Enquire Within. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.55 In Reply: Political Broadcast (Labour). 1.40 The Archers. 1.55 The Archers. 2.02 Women's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.05 Play: Family, by Robert Davis. 3.15 The Archers. 4.15 Bookshelf. 4.45 Greenwich '73. 4.55 News. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News. 6.30 Answers? 6.55 It's a Bargain. 7.00 News. 7.10 News. 7.20 Time for Verse. 7.30 Records: Mozart, Pergolesi. 7.45 A Sideswift Look. 7.50 Records: Vaughan Williams. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.05 A Little Place off the Edge: Road, by Graham Greene. 11.15 Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.50 News. 12.15 am-12.35 Shipping forecast.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Records: Mozart, Telemann, Farkas, Brahms. 7.30 News. 7.35 Records: Nicolai, Chopin, Mendelssohn (Octet). 7.45 News. 7.50 Week's Composers: The Court of the Sun King. 8.45 Quartet (Edinburgh): Puccini, Camille, Dvorak (top 50). 10.40 BBC Concert Orchestra: Walton, R. Fitch, G. Langford, J. Langley, Bourgeois. 11.40 Songs: F. G. Scott, Kilpinen. 12.10 BBC Northern SO/Dances, pt. 1. 1.00 News. 1.05 BBC NPO, pt. 2: Tchaikovsky (Swan Lake excerpts). 1.55 In Reply: Bartok's stage works. 2.55 Cimbalo (Fabian): L. Lang. Sokolay. 3.45 E.O. Leppard: Handel (incl. Water Music). 4.55 News. 5.00 Talking about Music. 7.30 Play: Reef, by David Pownall. 8.30 Record: Parcell. 9.15 Talk: The World of the World. 10.05 Patterson (concert). 10.30 Talk: Words. 11.05-11.15 Record: Bartok. 1.15-1.25 Record: Bartok. 1.25-1.35 Record: Bartok. 1.35-1.45 Record: Bartok. 1.45-1.55 Record: Bartok. 1.55-2.05 Record: Bartok. 2.05-2.15 Record: Bartok. 2.15-2.25 Record: Bartok. 2.25-2.35 Record: Bartok. 2.35-2.45 Record: Bartok. 2.45-2.55 Record: Bartok. 2.55-3.05 Record: Bartok. 3.05-3.15 Record: Bartok. 3.15-3.25 Record: Bartok. 3.25-3.35 Record: Bartok. 3.35-3.45 Record: Bartok. 3.45-3.55 Record: Bartok. 3.55-4.05 Record: Bartok. 4.05-4.15 Record: Bartok. 4.15-4.25 Record: Bartok. 4.25-4.35 Record: Bartok. 4.35-4.45 Record: Bartok. 4.45-4.55 Record: Bartok. 4.55-5.05 Record: Bartok. 5.05-5.15 Record: Bartok. 5.15-5.25 Record: Bartok. 5.25-5.35 Record: Bartok. 5.35-5.45 Record: Bartok. 5.45-5.55 Record: Bartok. 5.55-6.05 Record: Bartok. 6.05-6.15 Record: Bartok. 6.15-6.25 Record: Bartok. 6.25-6.35 Record: Bartok. 6.35-6.45 Record: Bartok. 6.45-6.55 Record: Bartok. 6.55-7.05 Record: Bartok. 7.05-7.15 Record: Bartok. 7.15-7.25 Record: Bartok. 7.25-7.35 Record: Bartok. 7.35-7.45 Record: Bartok. 7.45-7.55 Record: Bartok. 7.55-8.05 Record: Bartok. 8.05-8.15 Record: Bartok. 8.15-8.25 Record: Bartok. 8.25-8.35 Record: Bartok. 8.35-8.45 Record: Bartok. 8.45-8.55 Record: Bartok. 8.55-9.05 Record: Bartok. 9.05-9.15 Record: Bartok. 9.15-9.25 Record: Bartok. 9.25-9.35 Record: Bartok. 9.35-9.45 Record: Bartok. 9.45-9.55 Record: Bartok. 9.55-10.05 Record: Bartok. 10.05-10.15 Record: Bartok. 10.15-10.25 Record: Bartok. 10.25-10.35 Record: Bartok. 10.35-10.45 Record: Bartok. 10.45-10.55 Record: Bartok. 10.55-11.05 Record: Bartok. 11.05-11.15 Record: Bartok. 11.15-11.25 Record: Bartok. 11.25-11.35 Record: Bartok. 11.35-11.45 Record: Bartok. 11.45-11.55 Record: Bartok. 11.55-12.05 Record: Bartok. 12.05-12.15 Record: Bartok. 12.15-12.25 Record: Bartok. 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... BUT as he which has
collected about 100,000
1 St Peter 133.

BIRTHS

ACLAND—On April 7 to Amanda
the first child of Mr and Mrs
John Acland, 10, The Grange,
Oxford. A son, James.
ANDERSON—On April 7 to
Mary, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Anderson, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
COWEN—On April 7 to
William, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Cowen, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
DAVEY—On April 7 to
David, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Davey, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
FORSTER—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Forster, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
GRAY—On April 7 to
Stephen, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Gray, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
JAMES—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. James, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
LOCKETT—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Lockett, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
MENON—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Menon, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
OWEN—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Owen, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
OWEN—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Owen, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
OWEN—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Owen, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.

MARRIAGES

GOLDEN WEDDING
HENNING-GOTLEY—On April 7
to the first child of Mr and
Mrs J. Henning-Gotley, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.

DEATHS

ARMSTRONG—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Armstrong, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
BURTON—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Burton, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
DAVIES—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Davies, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
DAVIES—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Davies, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.
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DAVIES—On April 7 to
John, the first child of Mr
and Mrs J. Davies, 10, The
Grange, Oxford. A son, James.

INTERNATIONAL

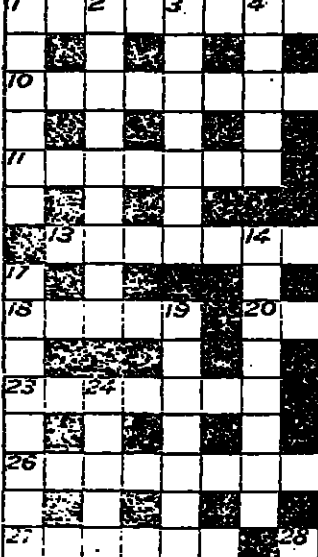
PROPERTY
SPOTLIGHT

See page 6

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMITTEE FOR RESCUE ARCH-
A committee has been formed
to raise funds for the rescue
of the Arch-...
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to raise funds for the rescue
of the Arch-...
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of the Arch-...

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE No 15,496



ACROSS
1 Tools for making bird-
cages? (8)
5 What a better might make?
Reckless! (6)
10 They can't have a game
without a pitch (8, 7)
11 What the chimney did was
celebrated (7)
12 Rocky situation for a
sleeper (4, 2)
13 Does it keep away the
chairs? (8)
15 Cobble was a rural one (5)
17 Abbreviated drill follows
the cry "Vault" (5)
19 Their calls may be booked
(8)
22 The French continue pro-
scription in the Levant (7)
23 Annual found in our ABC,
oddly (7)
24 A tie-in in this field
odd (5, 4)
27 Does he hurry, unravelling
the crime? (6)
28 Those embarked on their
were at cross purposes (8)

DOWN
1 A pointer—not a dice-player
(6)
2 Whom Roy disturbed in the
gloom (9)
3 They go round spinning
wires (7)
4 Vexed, being one pound in
debt (5)
6 Old sporting gentleman un-
dressed as a lover (7)

DEATHS

NORMAN—On April 7, passed
away in hospital, Mr Norman
John Norman, 10, The Grange,
Oxford. A son, James.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

PEACE—A service in remem-
brance of the late Mr Norman
John Norman, 10, The Grange,
Oxford. A son, James.

IN MEMORIAM

CORREY BURCHER—JOHN
ANTHONY, Lieutenant Colonel,
R.A. 1940-1945. A son, James.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANCER RESEARCH
CAMPAIGN
Where money goes to help
research the cancer...
CANCER RESEARCH
CAMPAIGN
Where money goes to help
research the cancer...

INTERNATIONAL

PROPERTY
SPOTLIGHT

See page 6

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMITTEE FOR RESCUE ARCH-
A committee has been formed
to raise funds for the rescue
of the Arch-...
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A committee has been formed
to raise funds for the rescue
of the Arch-...
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to raise funds for the rescue
of the Arch-...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LINACRE COLLEGE
The following elections have
been held...
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been held...

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROYAL OVERSEA LEAGUE, Park
Place, St. James's. The eleventh
annual conference and banquet
will be held on Monday, April 27th,
at the Grosvenor Hotel, London.
Tickets: £10.00. Bookings: 01-234 5678.

SEASONAL SALES

GAS LOG/COAL FIRES from £75
Sale of new log burners, coal
stoves, etc. See page 6.

UK HOLIDAYS

JOHN RIDGEWAY, Adventure
travel agent, offers a wide range
of holidays in the UK and abroad.
See page 6.

THE GREEK ISLANDS

The whole story of the islands
from the Aegean to the Ionian.
See page 6.

SUMMER FLIGHTS

See page 6

ECONOMY FLIGHT

See page 6

BE A BEACHBUM

See page 6

SHORT LETS

See page 6

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

See page 6

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 24

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROFARE CUTS THE COST OF
Early Season Bargains
We offer the lowest fares to
Europe and the Mediterranean
from April 1st to June 30th.
See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BREAKAWAY COST CUTTERS
We offer the lowest fares to
Europe and the Mediterranean
from April 1st to June 30th.
See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EASTER IN SWITZERLAND
Book a Swiss Easter special
flight from London to Zurich
for £125.00. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

FALCON SWISS CITY TOURS
24-hour Fulham Road, SW10
01-531 3577. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

HALF PRICE EASTER IN CORFU
Join the Greeks in their can-
dorous, crackling red
holidays. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

ENJOY GREECE SUN CLUB
Villas, sunbathing, swimming
and more. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

DISCOUNT FARES TO
Athens, Thessalonika, Larissa,
Patras, etc. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

HELOISA TRAVEL
61 Old Compton St., W.1
01-491 2372. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SUMMER FLIGHT BARGAINS
See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

AUSTRALIA/ANZ
Direct flights to Australia and
New Zealand. See page 6.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

NEVIS—A secret level in the
Caribbean. See page 6.

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